SATURDAY
April 5, 2025

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
18 Pages ₹ 6.00

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INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

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RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

Vol. 56 • No. 81

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Tirupati » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

**"IN THE PROGRESS OF
THE COUNTRY LIES OUR PROGRESS;
IN ITS SALVATION OUR SALVATION AND
IN ITS EMANCIPATION, OUR EMANCIPATION"**

- Dr. Babu Jagjivan Ram

118th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Garlanding the Statue of

Messiah of Green Revolution, National Leader, Former Deputy Prime Minister of India

Dr. BABU JAGJIVAN RAM

April 5, 2025 Saturday at 10.30 AM
West Gate of Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru

Programme

Time - 10.45 AM
Venue - Vidhana Soudha, Grand Steps, Bengaluru

Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, Hon'ble Minister for
Social Welfare addressing a progress review meeting.

As is enshrined in our constitution, **"to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture"** - is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country.

Commissioner
Social Welfare Department

@SWDGok

J BG-BGE

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GOKULAM GOPALAN QUIZZED

ED searches film producer's premises

SOUTH » PAGE 7

MANOJ KUMAR PASSES AWAY

The filmmaker who made 'Bharat' a brand

NEWS » PAGE 12

SHAH ADVOCATES DIALOGUE

Kuki-Zo, Meitei groups to meet in Delhi today

NEWS » PAGE 10

LESSONS FROM GUJARAT

Smoke, and a mirror to society

A firecracker factory without licence, its effect on migrant workers

GROUND ZERO » PAGE 9

SHINING STAR

Marsh on song as LSG pips MI in a run fest

SPORT » PAGE 15

China hits back with 34% tariff on all U.S. products

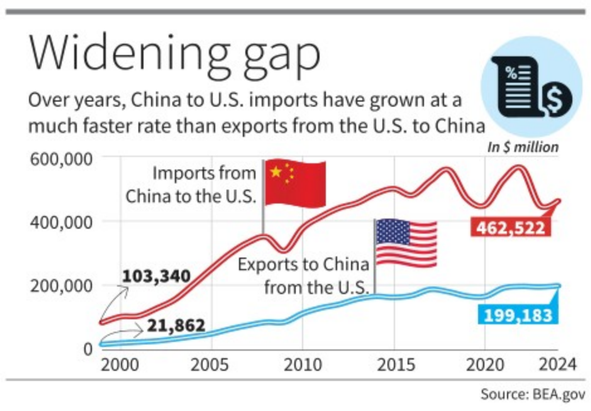
Beijing retaliates after Trump's 'Liberation Day' tariff hike of 34% on Chinese exports; Commerce Ministry to control exports of rare earth elements, vital for production of high-tech products

Associated Press
Reuters
BEIJING

China announced on Friday that it will impose a 34% tariff on imports of all U.S. products beginning April 10, part of a flurry of retaliatory measures following U.S. President Donald Trump's "Liberation Day" slate of double-digit tariffs.

The new tariff matches the rate of the U.S. "reciprocal" tariff of 34% on Chinese exports that President Trump ordered this week.

The Commerce Ministry in Beijing also said in a notice that it will impose more export controls on rare earth elements, which are materials used in high-tech products such as computer chips and electric vehicle batteries. Included in the list of minerals subject to controls was samarium and its compounds, which are used in aerospace manufacturing and the defence sector. Another element called gadolinium is used in MRI scans.



Source: BEA.gov

Trump slams China

In his response, Mr. Trump slammed Beijing. "China played it wrong, they panicked – the one thing they cannot afford to do!," Mr. Trump wrote in all caps in post on his social media platform.

China's customs administration said it had suspended chicken imports from some U.S. suppliers after it detected furazolidone, a drug banned in China, in shipments from those companies.

Separately, it said it had found high levels of mold in the sorghum and salmonella in poultry meat from some of the companies. The announcements affect one company exporting sorghum, C&D Inc., and four poultry companies.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10

U.S. revises tariff on all Indian imports to 26%

NEW DELHI

The U.S. has revised the import duties to be imposed on India from 27% to 26%, as per a White House document. This will come into force from April 9. Experts said 1% would not have much of an impact.

'70% of maternal deaths in State between April and Dec. 2024 were preventable'

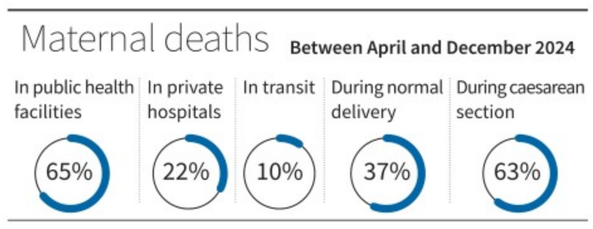
The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A government constituted technical team of health experts has found that 70% of maternal deaths in Karnataka between April and December 2024 could have been prevented.

The team, headed by the director of the Department of Health and Family Welfare Services, was constituted following the sudden spurt in maternal deaths (5 deaths) in Ballari in November 2024.

The 'Interim Maternal Death Audit Report' was submitted to Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao on Friday by the team of experts.

The experts had audited a total of 464 maternal deaths in the period. While 65% (305) of these deaths occurred in public health facilities, 22% (103) of them occurred in private hospitals. A significant number of the deaths (380 i.e. 82%) occurred between the time of childbirth to 42 days after delivery.



The report has observed that the deaths could have been prevented if correct decisions were made at the right time regarding the treatment plans adopted at the facility level for risk factors like anaemia, hypertensive disorders, gestational diabetes and such conditions that are developed during the pregnancy, pointing out that 69% of the mothers who died had more than one risk factor.

With 63% of maternal deaths being associated with caesarean (c-section) births, the report recommends optimisation of c-sections and promoting vaginal delivery. Further, around 10% (45) of deaths had occurred during transit from home to hospital or hospital to hospital which the report says shows that the patients were not stabilised before they were referred to a higher level of hospitals.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 2

NEARBY

Central prison to be trifurcated

BENGALURU

The Bengaluru Central Prison at Parappana Agrahara, the largest prison in Karnataka that houses over 5,000 inmates, is being split into three prisons on the same campus. » Page 2

Congress brass for maintaining *status quo*

BENGALURU

The Congress high command seems to have told Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to maintain *status quo* on both the Cabinet composition as well as the KPCC president's post till the government completes two-and-a-half years of its tenure. » Page 6

PROPERTYPLUS » PAGE 5

Rajya Sabha clears new Waqf Bill after 14 hours of debate

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

Parliament, in the early hours of Friday morning, cleared the Waqf (Amendment) Bill 2025, after nearly 14 hours of debate in Rajya Sabha, with 128 members voting in favour and 95 against. The government maintained that the law was not directed against the Muslims but only aimed to bring transparency in the administration of Waqf properties, while the Opposition alleged that it reduced Muslims to "second-class citizens" and questioned both its "intent and content".

The gap between the Treasury benches and the Opposition was much narrower in the Upper House compared to the Lok Sabha, where the Bill was cleared on Thursday by a margin of 56 votes. Earlier, an amendment opposing the clause on the inclusion of non-Muslim members in the Waqf Board and Central Waqf Council was moved by DMK MP Tiruchi Siva, but it was defeated.

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Will crack down on 'Waqf land scam': Fadnavis

MUMBAI

Maharashtra government will soon tackle a "massive Waqf land scam that took place in the State between 2000 and 2014", Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has said. He also said the Waqf Bill had nothing to do with Hindutva. » PAGE 11

Dust screen

Mumbai's skyline appears hazy in the midst of a dust storm on Friday morning. PTI

Governor sets deadline for govt. to name RDPR varsity Vice-Chancellor

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Sending a stern message to the Government of Karnataka, Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot has set a month's deadline to invite applications to fill the vacant Vice-Chancellor's post at the Mahatma Gandhi Rural Development & Panchayat Raj (RDPR) University in Gadag, North Karnataka. He warned that he would start the process himself if the government failed to do so.

The Congress government had in the Belagavi session of the legislature in December 2024, passed the Karnataka State Rural Development and Panchayat Raj University (Amendment) Bill, which seeks to appoint the Chief Minister as the Chancellor and give him the power to choose the Vice-Chancellor from the panel of three names suggested by search committee, taking away the power of the Governor.

Mr. Gehlot had, however, returned the Bill, passed in December 2024, seeking clarifications and corrections regarding the intent of the Bill.

Follow existing law

Mr. Gehlot said in his letter addressed to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah that until the Bill is cleared, the vice-chancellor has to be appointed as per the existing law. He further said Raj Bhavan had sent "numerous follow-ups and reminders" to the RDPR Department on inviting applications to the vacant post, but to no avail.

CONTINUED ON
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Modi and Yunus set aside differences, discuss minorities, situation at border

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Setting aside the tensions of the past eight months in their first meeting since the regime change in Dhaka, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bangladesh's Chief Advisor Muhammad Yunus held talks on the sidelines of the BIMSTEC regional summit in Bangkok on Friday.

While both leaders raised contentious issues – including India's call for the protection of minorities in Bangladesh, Dhaka's demand for the extradition of former Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina, and border security issues – during the meeting that lasted about 40 minutes, they met on cordial terms and exchanged commitments to bilateral ties. Bangladesh will host the BIMSTEC summit next year, and Mr. Modi congratulated Mr. Yunus for assuming its chairmanship.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Bangladesh Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus. ANI

The Modi-Yunus meeting on Friday was held just after the conclusion of the sixth summit of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), a seven-nation grouping that links South Asia and South East Asia.

Mr. Modi also met with Myanmar junta commander and PM General Min Aung Hlaing for the first time since the military came to power in 2021, and Nepal PM K.P. Sharma Oli, who took office in July 2024, on the sidelines of the meeting. All three leaders have chosen to visit China, while New Delhi has not issued invitations to them, due to tensions over a number of issues, and concerns over the legitimacy of the governments in Dhaka and Naypyitaw.

CONTINUED ON
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BJP worker found dead in Bengaluru

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A BJP worker ended his life at an office at Nagavara in the city, where he was working, on Thursday night. The deceased, Vinay Somaiah, 40, allegedly posted a WhatsApp message before he took the extreme step, which the BJP Karnataka unit had shared on social media.

Even as the Bengaluru city police are yet to confirm the authenticity of this message, the purported death note blamed a Kodagu Congress worker Thennira Myna, based on whose complaint an FIR was registered against Vinay Somaiah in February. The case pertained to an alleged offensive post on a WhatsApp group he was administrator of, regarding a dispute between members of Kodava and Gowda communities in the district over a temple event in February. Somaiah alleged in the purported note that he was being pursued even after the case against him was stayed by the HC, at the behest of Virajpet Congress MLA A.S. Ponnanna.

Vinay Somaiah

The BJP demanded an FIR against the two Congress MLAs from Kodagu – Mr. Ponnanna and Manthar Gowda – and handing over of the probe to the CBI. The deceased's brother Jeevan K.S. has submitted a petition to Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), East, demanding inclusion of names of MLAs in the FIR. As per the complaint filed by him, the FIR filed against Vinay Somaiah was "politically motivated". The complaint alleges that even after the case was stayed by the High Court, he was being harassed. It further alleged that Vinay Somaiah was contacted by both MLAs [Mr. Ponnanna and Mr. Gowda] personally. He also said that Thennira Myna circulated photos of his brother branding him a "miscreant".

The purported death note by Vinay Somaiah claims that Mr. Gowda called him when he had put out posts on social media about the problems of a hospital. He had asked Vinay Somaiah to flag issues directly with him and not post on public groups.

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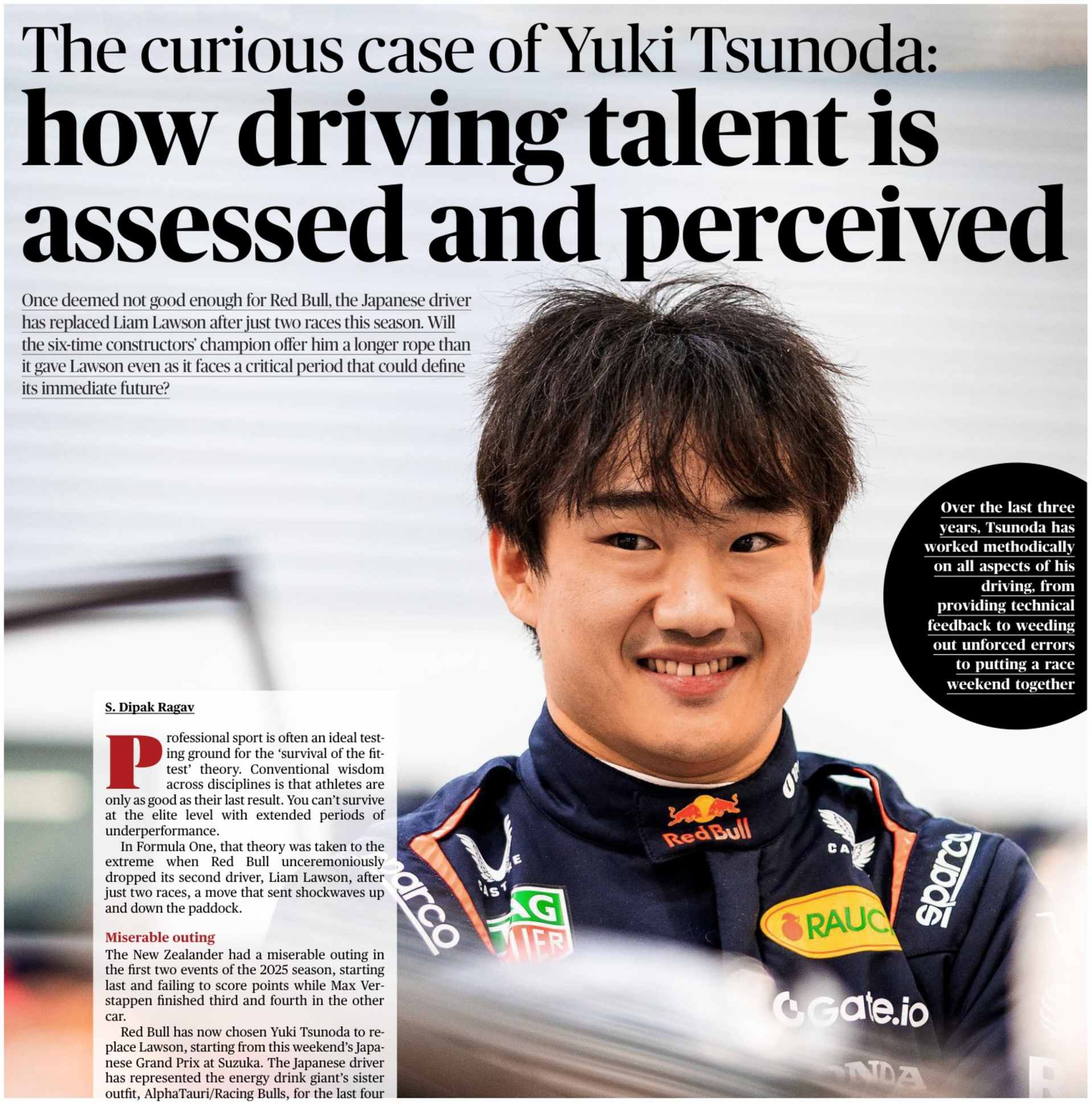
M BG-BGE

GETTY IMAGES

The curious case of Yuki Tsunoda: how driving talent is assessed and perceived

Once deemed not good enough for Red Bull, the Japanese driver has replaced Liam Lawson after just two races this season. Will the six-time constructors' champion offer him a longer rope than it gave Lawson even as it faces a critical period that could define its immediate future?



Over the last three years, Tsunoda has worked methodically on all aspects of his driving, from providing technical feedback to weeding out unforced errors to putting a race weekend together

S. Dipak Ragav

Professional sport is often an ideal testing ground for the 'survival of the fittest' theory. Conventional wisdom across disciplines is that athletes are only as good as their last result. You can't survive at the elite level with extended periods of underperformance.

In Formula One, that theory was taken to the extreme when Red Bull unceremoniously dropped its second driver, Liam Lawson, after just two races, a move that sent shockwaves up and down the paddock.

Miserable outing

The New Zealander had a miserable outing in the first two events of the 2025 season, starting last and failing to score points while Max Verstappen finished third and fourth in the other car.

Red Bull has now chosen Yuki Tsunoda to replace Lawson, starting from this weekend's Japanese Grand Prix at Suzuka. The Japanese driver has represented the energy drink giant's sister outfit, AlphaTauri/Racing Bulls, for the last four years.

Tsunoda was overlooked when Red Bull promoted Lawson, who only had 11 races under his belt, after sacking Sergio Perez in 2024. Perez had signed a two-year contract just months before his exit, a sequence of effects that reflected the bosses' muddled thinking.

Tsunoda's ascension to a top drive has not come easy and can be viewed as just reward for his hard work. At the same time, it also presents an interesting case study for how talent is evaluated; until recently, Red Bull felt Tsunoda was not cut out for its main squad.

Most modern-day sports are structured, with dedicated pathways for athletes to progress through the ranks. Athletes typically graduate to the highest level based on excellent junior performances. At the top, there are a few ways in which career trajectories can change.

Tsunoda has been thrown in at the deep end. But he has a great opportunity to prove his credentials and secure a longer-term future

The exceptional ones stand out while the no-hopers fall off the radar quickly. But most sportspersons range between these extremes. They are capable of reaching the highest level, but need time to discover if they belong. How quickly they diagnose and fix their shortcomings determines how their careers play out. Tsunoda is a classic example of this tier of athletes.

He aced the junior categories, finishing third in his rookie F2 campaign to earn a promotion to AlphaTauri for 2021. A points-scoring finish on debut in Bahrain impressed many. But over the rest of the year, a series of mistakes, a poor work ethic, and an inability to handle pressure saw him trounced by teammate Pierre Gasly. His constant swearing on the radio betrayed a lack of maturity, perhaps even a deficit in his capacity to handle the information given to him.

Tsunoda's fitness levels were so abysmal that he later joked that his then-65-year-old boss Franz Tost was probably in better physical shape.

Midway through his maiden season, he moved from the UK to Italy, where the team was based. Tost ensured his driver improved his fitness and worked alongside the engineers at the factory to prepare for the races.

Over the last three years, Tsunoda has methodically addressed his flaws, from providing technical feedback to weeding out unforced errors to putting a race weekend together. Since 2023, the diminutive 24-year-old has become the de facto team leader at Racing Bulls. He has had three teammates – Nyck de Vries, Daniel Ricciardo, and Lawson – and has comprehensively beaten them all, showing his remarkable progress.

Despite his results and an impressive test for Red Bull in the post-season running at Abu Dhabi in 2024, he did not secure the seat next to Verstappen for 2025.

One of the reasons Red Bull boss Christian Horner cited was Lawson's superior mental strength, considering the Kiwi was a lot closer to Tsunoda in races despite his relative inexperience.

Cutthroat business

Another reason could be that in the cutthroat world of F1, drivers need to show something special, even if they have rough edges. It can be the ability to be quick around street circuits or surefooted in wet or mixed conditions – something that stands out distinctly even if their CV is not stellar.

Still, after a long wait, there is now a volte-face on Tsunoda's ability, and he has been thrown in at the deep end. The youngster has a great chance to prove his credentials and secure a longer-term future. Right now, the bar is set so low that if he can qualify in the top-10 and finish in the points, Horner & Co. will gladly take it.

At the same time, it is an enormous indictment of Red Bull's driver management that it has been unable to find the right driver for one of the most coveted seats in F1 despite controlling four seats on the grid and having an extensive junior driver programme.

Since 2019, Verstappen has had four colleagues: Gasly (who had only 12 races), Alexander Albon (one-and-a-half seasons), Perez (four years), and Lawson. Barring Perez, the others were promoted too soon and found it hard to get close to the Dutchman's pace.

One of the reasons for this is the nature of the Red Bull itself. The reigning champion prefers a car with a sharp front end, which responds well when he first applies steering lock, even if the car's rear is loose and moving. He overcomes the rear instability through his innate talent.

Unfortunately, none of the drivers on the other side of the garage has been able to adapt to that trait. Since 2024, the car's balance has become so tricky that even Verstappen is not happy, although he still manages to eke out spectacular results through sheer ability.

A conundrum to solve

The Milton Keynes-based outfit is now faced with a huge conundrum. The team's refusal to heed its drivers' warnings has made it a one-trick pony capable of fighting for decent results only in the hands of a once-in-a-generation talent.

It now has to decide whether to dial down the machinery's tricky characteristics, even at the cost of lap-time, or continue down the current path, hoping their latest recruit somehow manages to be the perfect rear-gunner for the reigning champion. Even if the best-case scenario does materialise, it will raise questions of why Tsunoda wasn't picked in the first place and why Lawson has been made a sacrificial lamb.

But the bigger question is: What happens if Tsunoda struggles? Where does that leave the six-time constructors' champion? Considering Tsunoda is walking into a challenging environment without any preparation, like a pre-season test, will he be given a long rope?

More importantly, new regulations will be in place in 2026, and there is no guarantee that Verstappen will stay if he doesn't believe he has the vehicle to fight for titles. If Red Bull's lodestar leaves and there is uncertainty over the other seat, the outfit could quickly go from a top-three unit to a midfield straggler.

STACKING UP

ATP Men's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Jannik Sinner	23	10,330	16
2	Alexander Zverev	27	7,645	22
3	Carlos Alcaraz	21	6,720	18
4	Taylor Fritz	27	5,290	22
5	Novak Djokovic	37	4,510	19
6	Casper Ruud	26	3,855	25
7	Jack Draper	23	3,780	20
8	Stefanos Tsitsipas	26	3,445	23
9	Andrey Rublev	27	3,440	28
10	Alex de Minaur	26	3,335	23
11	Daniil Medvedev	29	3,290	20
12	Holger Rune	21	3,270	23
13	Tommy Paul	27	3,070	20
14	Ben Shelton	22	2,940	24
15	Arthur Fils	20	2,670	24

Top Indians ▶

Sumit Nagal
Rank 137 ▲ 2 spots

Mukund Sasikumar
Rank 455 ▼ 11 spots

WTA Women's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Aryna Sabalenka	26	10,541	20
2	Iga Swiatek	23	7,470	17
3	Coco Gauff	21	6,063	21
4	Jessica Pegula	31	5,796	18
5	Madison Keys	30	4,949	19
6	Jasmine Paolini	29	4,843	18
7	Mirra Andreeva	17	4,775	18
8	Qinwen Zheng	22	4,135	20
9	Paula Badosa	27	3,821	23
10	Elena Rybakina	25	3,808	19
11	Emma Navarro	23	3,749	25
12	Daria Kasatkina	27	3,006	24
13	Karolina Muchova	28	2,919	17
14	Diana Shnaider	20	2,913	27
15	Barbora Krejcikova	29	2,675	16

Top Indians ▶

Ankita Raina
Rank 300 ▲▼ No change

Sahaja Yamalapalli
Rank 316 ▼ 4 spots

F1 Drivers' standings

#	Driver	Team	Points	Wins
1	Lando Norris	McLaren	44	1
2	Max Verstappen	Red Bull	36	0
3	George Russell	Mercedes	35	0
4	Oscar Piastri	McLaren	34	1
5	Kimi Antonelli	Mercedes	22	0
6	Alexander Albon	Williams	16	0
7	Esteban Ocon	Haas	10	0
8	Lance Stroll	Aston Martin	10	0
9	Lewis Hamilton	Ferrari	9	0
10	Charles Leclerc	Ferrari	8	0
11	Nico Hulkenberg	Sauber	6	0
12	Oliver Bearman	Haas	4	0
13	Yuki Tsunoda	Racing Bulls	3	0
14	Carlos Sainz	Williams	1	0
15	Isack Hadjar	Racing Bulls	0	0
16	Pierre Gasly	Alpine	0	0
17	Liam Lawson	Red Bull	0	0
18	Jack Doohan	Alpine	0	0
19	Gabriel Bortoleto	Sauber	0	0
20	Fernando Alonso	Aston Martin	0	0

Lando Norris

Max Verstappen

F1 Constructors' standings

Pos	Team	Points	Wins
1	McLaren	78	2
2	Mercedes	57	0
3	Red Bull	36	0
4	Williams	17	0
5	Ferrari	17	0
6	Haas	14	0
7	Aston Martin	10	0
8	Kick Sauber	6	0
9	RB	3	0
10	Alpine	0	0

Badminton Men's ranking

#	Player	Points	Events
1	Shi Yu Qi	1,01,235	13
2	Anders Antonsen	91,853	20
3	Viktor Axelsen	89,710	14
4	Jonatan Christie	86,727	16
5	Kunlavut Vitidsarn	83,738	17
6	Li Shi Feng	83,456	18
7	Kodai Naraoka	77,187	20
8	Lee Zii Jia	76,415	15
9	Chou Tien Chen	76,157	24
10	Alex Lanier	66,511	17
11	Weng Hong Yang	61,767	16
12	Kenta Nishimoto	60,043	22
13	Lin Chun-Yi	59,460	19
14	Chia Hao Lee	58,458	21
15	Koki Watanabe	58,324	14

Top Indians ▶

Lakshya Sen
Rank 16

H. S. Prannoy
Rank 29

Badminton Women's ranking

#	Player	Points	Events
1	An Se Young	1,12,867	12
2	Wang Zhi Yi	1,03,895	18
3	Han Yue	82,109	19
4	Akane Yamaguchi	79,967	12
5	Gregoria Mariska Tunjung	79,262	17
6	Pornpawee Chochuwong	70,778	23
7	Tomoka Miyazaki	68,271	20
8	Chen Yu Fei	68,082	9
9	Supanida Katethong	66,614	16
10	Busanan Ongbamrungphan	62,460	18
11	Putri Kusuma Wardani	61,627	18
12	Yeo Jia Min	61,583	18
13	Ratchanok Intanon	60,213	20
14	Beiwen Zhang	58,176	15
15	Gao Fang Jie	55,650	12

Top Indians ▶

P.V. Sindhu
Rank 17

Malvika Bansod
Rank 22

Test Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Joe Root	895	932
2	Harry Brook	876	898
3	Kane Williamson	867	919
4	Yashasvi Jaiswal	847	854
5	Steve Smith	823	947
6	Temba Bavuma	769	769
7	Kamindu Mendis	761	779
8	Travis Head	748	884
9	Usman Khawaja	739	847
9	Rishabh Pant	739	801

Test Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Jasprit Bumrah	908	908
2	Kagiso Rabada	837	902
3	Pat Cummins	824	914
4	Josh Hazlewood	818	864
5	Nathan Lyon	812	812
6	Noman Ali	806	806
7	Marco Jansen	785	803
8	Matt Henry	782	782
9	Prabath Jayasuriya	751	801
10	Ravindra Jadeja	745	899

ODI Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Shubman Gill	784	847
2	Babar Azam	777	898
3	Rohit Sharma	756	882
4	Heinrich Klaasen	744	760
5	Virat Kohli	736	909
6	Daryl Mitchell	732	750
7	Harry Tector	713	767
8	Shreyas Iyer	704	710
9	Charith Asalanka	694	694
10	Ibrahim Zadran	676	693

ODI Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Maheesh Theekshana	680	686
2	Mitchell Santner	650	657
2	Kuldeep Yadav	650	761
4	Keshav Maharaj	648	741
5	Bernard Scholtz	644	648
6	Rashid Khan	640	799
7	Matt Henry	635	691
8	Gudakesh Motie	632	639
9	Ravindra Jadeja	616	733
10	Adam Zampa	614	699

T20I Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Travis Head	856	885
2	Abhishek Sharma	829	829
3	Philip Salt	815	881
4	Tilak Varma	804	845
5	Suryakumar Yadav	739	912
6	Jos Buttler	735	756
7	Pathum Nissanka	714	722
8	Babar Azam	688	900
9	Mohammad Rizwan	681	882
10	Kusal Perera	676	786

T20I Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Jacob Duffy	723	723
2	Akeal Hosein	707	714
3	Varun Chakravarthy	706	706
4	Adil Rashid	705	747
5	Wanindu Hasaranga	700	809
6	Adam Zampa	694	746
7	Ravi Bishnoi	674	707
8	Maheesh Theekshana	666	686
9	Rashid Khan	664	828
10	Arshdeep Singh	653	679

Town Municipal Council, Birur

Chikkamagaluru District.
e-mail: ka.birur.tmc@gmail.com Phone:08267-255888
Website: www.birurtown.mrc.gov.in
No.: TMC/BT/Tender-18/2024-25 Date: 02.04.2025

Tender Notice

Tender is invited through K.P.P. Portal subject to Standard Document Conditions from eligible, registered contractors/Suppliers for purchase of Tramells as per detailed project report under S.B.M. 1.0 Scheme for processing solid waste of Birur Town. For further details technical section can be contacted during office hours. If there are any changes in the Tender Notice, it can be seen in the website of the office / kpp portal.

Sl. No.1. Details of Works: DMA/2024-25/IND4504 **Approx. Amount (Rs. In lakhs):** 79.29 **E.M.D. Fee (in Rs.)**: Refer K.P.P portal **Last date for submission of Tender:** 21.04.2025 **Date of opening the Tender:** 23.04.2025

Sd/- Chairman **Sd/- Chief Officer,**
Town Municipal Council, Birur.

DIPR/ckm//KSMCA/202/24-25/10

ಪುರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ದೇವನಹಳ್ಳಿ

ದೇವನಹಳ್ಳಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ–562110
ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 080–27682221, Email : itstaff_ulb_devanahalli@yahoo.co.in

ನಂ.ದೇಪು/ತಾ.ಶಾ/ಟೆ.ಪ್ರ/ಸಿಆರ್/04/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 04.04.2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ (ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ. ಪೋರ್ಟಾಲ್) ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ)
(ಸ್ಟಾಂಡರ್ಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ KW-1 & KW-2 ರ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳಂತೆ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ)

ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ವಿಷಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ, ದೇವನಹಳ್ಳಿ ಪುರಸಭೆಗೆ 2022–23 ಮತ್ತು 2024–25ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಪುರಸಭಾ ಅನುದಾನದಡಿ ಸಿ.ಸಿ. ರಸ್ತೆ, ಕ್ಲರ್ಕ್, ಕಾವಲುಗಾರ ನೌಕರರು. ಅಳವಡಿಸುವುದು. ಪೈಪ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ, ಕರ್ಬ್‌ಸ್ಟೋನ್, ಸಂಪ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ, ಚರಂಡಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ, ಬಿಲ್ಡಿಂಗ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ, ಸಿ.ಸಿ. ಪ್ಲಾಟ್ ಫಾರಂ, ಶೆಡ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮತ್ತು ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಒಟ್ಟು ಮೊತ್ತ **ರೂ: 405.63 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳ** ಒಟ್ಟು 25 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಐಟಾಂವಾರು ಮತ್ತು ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಾಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಏಕ ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ **ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್: www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು.

ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **(As per KPPP Portal ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ)** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **(As per KPPP Portal)** ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಪುರಸಭೆಯ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಶಾಖೆಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಸಹಿ/–
ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
ಪುರಸಭೆ, ದೇವನಹಳ್ಳಿ ವಾಸಾಸಂ೨/ವಾಪ್ರ/73/ಎಸ್‌ಎಸ್‌ಸಿ/2025–26 ಪುರಸಭೆ, ದೇವನಹಳ್ಳಿ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ನೀರಾವರಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ

ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ನೀರಾವರಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ, ನಂ. 3 ಭದ್ರಾ ನಾಲಾ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಲೇಬೆನ್ನೂರು.
ಫೋನ್/ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್:08192–200255 Email:eeknnlmbr@gmail.com

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕ.ನೀ.ನಿ.ನಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಇವರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಕ.ನೀ.ನಿ.ನಿ, ನಂ.3 ಭದ್ರಾ ನಾಲಾ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಲೇಬೆನ್ನೂರು ಇಂದ ಉಲ್ಲೇಖಿತ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ 4701–ಭದ್ರಾ ಮತ್ತು 2700–ಆರ್.ಅಂಡ್.ಎಂ. ಅಡಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಏಕ ಮತ್ತು ದ್ವಿ ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಡಿ ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಶೇಕಡಾವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) ಮುಖಾಂತರವೇ ದಿ: 04.04.2025ರಿಂದ ಡೌನಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ದಿ:16.04.2025ರ ಸಂಜೆ 4.30ಘಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕುರಿತು ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟೀಕರಣಕ್ಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರೀ ಬಿಡ್ ಸಭೆಯನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ:09.04.2025 ರಂದು 12.00 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ ವಿಭಾಗ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ವಿಳಾಸದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ ಹಾಗೂ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ/ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 17.04.2025 ರಂದು 4.35 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ ಆಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಒಟ್ಟು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ :– 15 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳು.

(1) KNNL/2024-25/OW/W_ INDENT2323/Call-5 ರೂ. 2.47 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು
(2) KNNL/2024-25/OW/W_ INDENT2349/CALL-5 ರೂ. 2.49 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು
(3) KNNL/2024-25/RD/W_ INDENT2187/Call-4 ರೂ. 3.67 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು
(4) KNNL/2024-25/RD/W_ INDENT2173/Call-2 ರೂ. 93.97 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು
(5) KNNL/2024-25/BR/W_ INDENT2161/CALL-3 ರೂ. 74.81 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು
(6) KNNL/2024-25/OW/W_ INDENT2191/CALL-3 ರೂ. 74.98 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು
(7) KNNL/2024-25/RD/W_ INDENT2157/Call-4 ರೂ. 134.88 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು
(8) KNNL/2024-25/IW/W_ INDENT2567/Call-2 ರೂ. 245.74 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು
(9) KNNL/2024-25/BR/W_ INDENT2585/Call-2 ರೂ. 244.37 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು
(10) KNNL/2024-25/IW/W_ INDENT2569/Call-2 ರೂ. 147.08 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು
(11) KNNL/2024-25/BR/W_ INDENT2582/Call-2 ರೂ. 78.34 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು
(12) KNNL/2024-25/IW/W_ INDENT2587/Call-2 ರೂ. 98.18 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು
(13) KNNL/2024-25/IW/W_ INDENT2586/CALL-3 ರೂ. 97.96 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು
(14) KNNL/2024-25/BR/W_ INDENT2570/CALL-2 ರೂ. 99.89 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು
(15) KNNL/2024-25/ BR /W_ INDENT2577/CALL-2 ರೂ. 99.90 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು

(ಈ ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಜಿ.ಎಸ್.ಟಿ. ಒಳಗೊಂಡಂತೆ)

ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣ ನೀಡದೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಮುಂದೂಡುವ, ಅಂಗಿಕರೀಸುವ ಅಥವಾ ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸುವ ಹಕ್ಕನ್ನು ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಕಾಯ್ದಿರಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಅಥವಾ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿದವರ ಕಛೇರಿಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ವಾಸಾಇ/ಡಿವಿಜಿ/07/ ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಕನೀನಿನಿ,
ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26 ನಂ.3, ಭದ್ರಾ ನಾಲಾ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಲೇಬೆನ್ನೂರು.

जवाहरलाल नेहरू उन्नत वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान केंद्र

Jawaharlal Nehru Centre For Advanced Scientific Research
Jakkur P.O., Bengaluru - 560064, Karnataka, INDIA
An autonomous institution under Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India.
An Institution Deemed-to- be-University

Advt No. JNC/AO/02&03/2025 Dated:05.04.2025

Notification

JNCASR, an autonomous research institution and Deemed to be University under the aegis of the Department of Science & Technology, Government of India, invites applications for one position each of **Personal Assistant and Junior Project Engineer**, on direct recruitment basis.

Refer to the Centre's website for detailed advertisement and to download the application form. https://www.jncasr.ac.in/openings/administrative-staff

Sd/- Administrative Officer
JNCASR

RAICHUR POWER CORPORATION LIMITED

(YERMARUS THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN-U40101KA2009PLC049582

No.: KPCL/2024-25/PS/WORK_INDENT2744 Date:26.03.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through KPP Portal Only) (Two Cover System)

RPCL invites bids through GoK KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** from reputed bidders for the work of "Servicing of Planetary Gearbox for HP1103 Bowl Mill" Tender Amount : **Rs. 99,72,180/-** EMD: **Rs. 2,00,000/-** Period of Contract **: 12 Months.** Last date for receipt of tenders : **08.04.2025 upto 17.30 Hrs.** Further details can be had from Executive Engineer(M-1), RPCL, YTPS, Chicksugur-584 134, Raichur Dist. Mobile : 9449597970.

CAUVERY NEERAVARI NIGAMA LIMITED

(A Govt. of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Mekedatu Project Division,
Harobele Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District,
E-mail : eemekedatu@gmail.com

Short Term Tender Notification No. : 01/2025-26 Date : 04-04-2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

The **CNNL** hereby invites Tender for the **Road and Other Development works in kanakapura Constituency** under 4701 head through https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal.

The Last Date for Tender Submission, Opening of Technical Bid, Financial Bid Dates, EMD details and more information can be downloaded from the Website : https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal and for further information please visit office at working hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Mekedatu Project Division, CNNL,
Harobele.

DIPR/Ramanagar/10/Manipal/2025-26

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture,
Bommanahalli Zone, Bengaluru

No. SADH(BOM)/TENDER/08/2025-26 Date : 04-04-2025

LETTER OF INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) - (SHORT TERM)
(SINGLE COVER SYSTEM) (Through GOK KPP Portal only)

The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture Bommanahalli Zone. (Refered to as Employer in these documents) invites tenders to Implement in accordance with KTPP rules 2000 from eligible and experienced Person / Agencies / Firms (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents) registered in Labour department for Maintenance of Parks.

Sl.	Name of the Work
1	Maintenance of park at Jaraganahalli Ward No. 213 in Bommanahalli Zone Call-2. **Estimated Cost :** Rs. 16,30,000/- **EMD Amount :** Rs. 20,375/- Category : CAT-I
2	Maintenance of Borewell in Bommanahalli Assembly Constituency Parks Call-2. **Estimated Cost :** Rs. 45,00,000/- **EMD Amount :** Rs. 45,000/- Category : SC
3	Maintenance of Toilets at Bommanahalli Constituency in Bommanahalli Zone Call-2. **Estimated Cost :** Rs. 12,53,628/- **EMD Amount :** Rs. 15,670/- Category : ST

Calendar of Events : (1) Tender Documents may be downloaded from Government of Karnataka KPP Portal website : **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home** under login of Contractors from **07-04-2025** **(2)** Tender Closing date : **11-04-2025 at 4.30 PM** **(3)** Technical Bid Opening date : **15-04-2025 at 11.30 AM** **(4)** Financial bid opening date : After Approval of Technical Bid.

Sd/- Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture,
Bommanahalli Zone

Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department

Office of the Executive Engineer Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Division Koppal.
Phone & Fax No : 08539-220054 email: eemidnkst@rediffmail.com

No:EE/MI&GWDD/Koppal/PB/TP/2025-26/1302 Dated: 03-04-2025

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER

The Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department Division Koppal invites tenders from the eligible tenderers registered civil contractors as per standard bid documents KW-2 and KW-3 on KPP portal for 08 no of works pertaining to Raichur district. The approximate amount for the mentioned works varies from **Rs.32.00 to Rs.95.00 Lakhs.** The tenderers may submit tenders for the mentioned work through KPP portal only. **Two cover** tender procedure as per rule 28 of the KTTP act shall be followed.

For more information the contractor can contact the under signed during office hours and all information regarding tenders can be had from website **http://https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** The tender documents can be downloaded from the above website address on or after **08-04-2025.** Last date & time for receipt of tender is **15-04-2025 time 17.30** hours, pre bid meeting will be held on **11-04-2025 time 11.00** hours at this office, date & time for opening of technical bid **17-04-2025 time 11.00** hours, date and time for opening of financial bid **22-04-2025 time 11.00** hours (If technical bid sanction is accorded by the competent authority).

Sd/-Executive Engineer
Minor Irrigation and
Ground Water Development
Department Division Koppal.

DIPR/Koppal/10/DeshpandePublicity/2025-26

HUBLI ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED

(Wholly owned Government of Karnataka undertaking)
Superintending Engineer (Ele.) O and M Circle, Shivaganga Layout, HESCOM, Hubballi-23
Tel: 0836 2364144, Fax: 0836 2366184 E-mail ID: seehbl.hescom@gmail.com

Corporate Identity Number CIN: U31401KA2002SGC030437

No: HESCOM/SEE/EEE(O)/AEE-1/F-48/2024-25/ 5728-30 Date: 28/03/2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPPP Portal Only)

Superintending Engineer (Ele), O and M Circle, HESCOM, Hubballi has invited Tenders for Providing of various service in Dharwad district in Two cover system. The details of service tender indents are:HESCOM/2024-25/SE0051, 0107, 0377, 0113, 0114, 0115, 0116, 0117, 0118, 0119, 0120, 0121, 0165, 0166, 0187, 0188,0191, 0192, 0193, 0194, 0195, 0235, 0245, 0246, 0247, 0250, 0374, 0375 & 0376

The detailed notification regarding the bid enquiry can be obtained by logging on to the website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ on or **after 05/04/2025** for further information, please contact telephone No: **9480883827/9448356512/ 9448370227** during office hours.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele).,
O & M Circle Office,
HESCOM, Hubballi.

DIPR/Dharwad/13/ 2025-26/DeshpandePublicity

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT CENTRE (HSFC),
Construction & Maintenance Group (CMG), Antariksh Bhavan,
Bengaluru - 560 094, Ph:080-22172614/2613

E-TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of the President of India, Online Item rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for the following works.

Sl. No.	Title of work and NIT no.	Estimated Cost put to tender Rs.	Period of Completion	Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	Due date & time of submission	Date of tender opening	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Rs.
01	Construction of restroom and changing rooms for workers at HSFC, Devanahalli, Bengaluru. (Civil, PH & Electrical works). **HSFC/CMG/MM/C/E/143/2024-25, Dt: 04.04.2025**	22.97 Lakhs	04 Months	From 05.04.2025 (11.00 hrs) to	22.04.2025 up to 11.00 hrs	22.04.2025 up to 11.30 hrs	45,940/-
02	Construction of Kiosk Building, HSFC, Devanahalli, Bengaluru. (Civil & Electrical Work). **HSFC/CMG/MM/C/E/144/2024-25, Dt: 04.04.2025**	23.16 Lakhs	04 Months	20.04.2025 (23.30 hrs)			46,320/-

Tender documents can be downloaded from website **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO** by registering with tender wizard and paying tender processing fee. The procedure for vender registration is displayed in the above website.
Interested tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) from website **www.isro.gov.in** for further details and Purchase of tender documents visit **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**

Sd/-Head CMD, CMG, HSFC

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

R Srinivaas (78yrs), Retired Assistant Engineer, Printing,The Hindu, Chennai passed away on 04- April- 2025 in Australia. Whatsapp : 98415 70054.

Sri. **SRINIVAAS RAJU** (78)
Retd. THE HINDU
Husband of Late Smt.Bhagirathi Devi
Passed away peacefully on April 4, 2025 in Canberra, Australia.
Deeply Mourned by
Sons: Satish, Yuva Prasad & Families.
email: yuvaprasad@gmail.com

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES

To dedicate a space in this section, Please contact:
Bengaluru: 98455 29981, 080 - 22071826
Hubballi: 0836 - 2338600
Mangaluru: 0824 - 2417575, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
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BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Forest Unit,
Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, NR Square, Annex Building - 3, Bengaluru-560002.

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಉಅಸಂ/ಪಿಆರ್/2238/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 28.03.2025

Short-term Notification for Rate Quotation

Sub: Inviting rate quotations for the systematic maintenance of tree works for the teams.
With reference to the above subject, tenders have been invited to quote the rates for systematic tree maintenance works of cutting and removing the trees/branches and to remove trees and its trunks / branches as permitted by tree-surgeon falling due to wind and rain during rainy season within the jurisdiction of the BBMP totalling 21 teams in the limits of these zones (BBMP – East - 04, West -04, South -04, Yalahanka – 02, Dasarahalli -01, Mahadevapura -02, R R Nagara -02 and Bommanahalli -02 Teams) for the period of 30 days from April 09, 2025.

Sl No	Specification	Quantity	Unit
1.	One Skilled Supervisor Per Day, per Team	01 per day per team	No
2.	Engaging 03 skilled Labours for cut and remove the trees/Branches (per team, per day (including loading and unloading to Depot)	03 labours per day per team	No's
3.	Engaging 04 Semi skilled Labours for cut and remove the trees/branches (including loading and unloading to nearest depot)	04 labours per day per team	No's
4.	Hiring Vehicle Charges for Swaraz LCV/MCV (Low Capacity Vehicle/Medium Capacity Vehicle) including skilled/ licensed Driver and including Fuel. Per day per team **With Vehicle Number:**	Per day	No
5.	Hiring Material charges like Electrical/Petrol Machinery, and other Chainpully, Pikase, Guddali, Cross cut saw, Hammer &, ropes wooden Ladders, reflecting Jacket or Uniform, helmets with torch, Rainy Shoes, first aid kit including all safety equipment's per day per team	Lumpsum	No's

Those interested in carrying out the above works should submit their quotations separately to each team. The last date for submission of quotations at the rate box kept in the above office on or before **09.04.2025, 4.00 P M**

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Deputy Conservator of Forests, BBMP, Bengaluru

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby notified that my client **Sri. HANUMANT KULKARNI**, S/o Anandbabu H Kulkarni, Aadhar No. 6655 1191 1637, R/@ Pavan Building 19/1, 3rd Main 5th Cross, Behind Bhavani Apartment Kalyan Nagar, Dharwad, Karnataka-580007 also R/@ Bangalore, intend to purchase the Schedule Property from **1).Sri.MANDYAM ANANDA NARAYANAN, & 2). Smt.MALATHI NARAYAN.**

Whereas, said 1)Sri.MANDYAM ANANDA NARAYANAN, & 2). Smt. MALATHI NARAYAN have lost original Sale Deed dated 24.04.1997, registered as document No.771/1997-98, Book-I,Pages 37-45, registered in the office of Sub-Registrar, Kengeri, B'lore for which they filed Lost Report dated 02.08.2024 to concerned Police station & Paper Publication dated 15.08.2024, & accordingly complied the requirement for loss of Original Documents under the provisions of Law.

If any person/s having objection/s / Claim, Interest over the Schedule Property may raise their objection within **7 days** with relevant documents to me from the date of this publication failing which my client shall proceed to complete the sale deed or otherwise it will be treated as there is no claimant.

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Sd/-
Advocate LATHA PRASAD
OFF: No. 2/1, Ground Flr, Model House 2nd Street, Near Nagasandra Circle, Opp to South Avenue Complex, Basavanagudi, B'lore-04.
Mobile: 99800-11669
Client: Hanumant Kulkarni :
Mobile No: 90365-52034

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ANJALI Thakur, Daughter of Ramgopal, Resident of Room No.12, SNCO's Mess No. 1, Air Force Station Jalahalli West, Bangaluru–560015, Have Changed My Name From Anjali Thakur to Anjali Panwar Vide Affidavit SL No. IN–KA98518054537287K Dated 03.04.2025 Before Government of Karnataka, E–stamp, Bangaluru

I, Girish Shivanagoud Hosagoudra S/O, Shivanagoud R/o 571, Cholachagudda, Badami, Bagalkot 587201 have changed my name to Girish Hosagoudra .

I, Shaker M S/o Muniyappa R/o Old 132, New 16, 13Th Main, 4Th Cross, Near Muneshwara Temple, Hal 3Rd Stage, Kodihalli, Bangalore North, Po: H. A. L. 2 Stage, Dist: Bangalore, Karnataka-560008, Have Changed My Minor Son's Name from Yoshik Kshatriya S (Aged 10 Years) to Avyaan Aarya S and shall hereafter be known as Avyaan Aarya S for All Future Purposes

I, Sunil Kumar S/O Sanjeevaiah R/O #125, Doddamaralawadi, Po: Maralavadi, Dist: Ramanagar, Karnataka-562121, Have Changed The Name of My Minor Daughter Namely Hithashree (Aged 15 Years) and She shall hereafter be known as Jaahnavi S for All Future Purposes

I, ROOPINI Koppa Chandrumohana W/o Manoj Malatesh Gujjar, #818/9, behind Darshan Complex, P.B.Road, Davanagere-577002 have changed my name to Roopini Manoj vide affidavit dt 05.04.25 sworn before Notary S.Vijayakumar, Bluru.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MANISH SREENIVAS** S/o Sreenivas Reddy M, aged about 27 years, R/at No. 4129-10, 2nd Main, B Block, 2nd Stage, Rajajinagar, Srirampuram, Bangalore-560 021 do hereby declare that all the names i.e. **MANISH SREENIVAS, SREENIVFAS MANISH** and **MANISH .S** are one and the same and refers to me only, vide affidavit dated 11-03-2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **G. DAYANANDA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **JULIYANA** D/o Sri Lurdhu Nadhan J, W/o Sri Sirish C.N, age 40 years, R/at No. 2, 7th Link Road, 7th Cross, Cholurupalya, Bangalore-560 023 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SMT. JULIYANA** to **SMT. JYOTHI,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **SMT. JYOTHI** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 4th April 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **PUTTARAMAIAH** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **JAYAPRAKASH CHAKALABBI** S/o Viththal Chakalabbi, aged 44 years, R/at No. 207, Block No. 22, Suprabhatha, R K Apartment, Balaji Street, Ramamurthynagar, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru-560 016 do hereby declare that both the names i.e. **JAYAPRAKASH CHAKALABBI** and **JAYAPRAKASH** are one and the same and refers to me only, vide affidavit dated 04.04.2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **S. VIJAYAKUMAR** at Bangalore.

I, MUSTHARI Begum, W/o Mir Lathafath Hussain, R/at Babul Hawaji Road, Alipur, Thondebhavi Hobli, Gauribidanur Taluk, Chikkaballapur District-561213 have changed my name from Mushtary Begum to Musthari Begum vide affidavit dated 05-02-2025 sworn before Notary K.V. Mani, B'luru

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **NIDHI PEDDAPALLI MALLIKARJUNA** D/o Mallikarjuna Kumar Peddapalli, aged about 27 years, R/at No. 42, 3rd Cross, 8th Main, Srinidhi Layout, Konanakunte, Bangalore-560 062 do hereby declare that all the names i.e. **NIDHI PEDDAPALLI MALLIKARJUNA** and **NIDHI .P** are one and the same and refers to me only, vide affidavit dated 12-03-2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **G. DAYANANDA** at Bangalore.

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Deepika Huchappa Mulagund W/O Sagar Belikeri R/O 1236, 2nd Floor, Sri Lakshmi Nivas, 14th Main, Vtc Judicial Layout, Po G.K.V.K, Sub District, Bangalore North, District, Bengaluru, State, Karnataka-560065, Have changed the Name of My Minor Daughter Namely Sanvi.S (Aged 6 Years) and She shall hereafter be known as Sanvi.M

I, ARAVIND Kshirasagar alias Aravind P Kshirasagar Residing at No.98C, 3rd Floor, 12th Cross, Ideal Homes Township, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bangalore-560098 have changed my name to Aravind Pandurang Kshirasagar vide Affidavit Dated: 13-03-2025 Sworn Before Notary N.Sandhya, Bangalore

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From Page One

Governor sets deadline to name RDPR varsity VC

The post has been vacant for 10 months, he pointed out.

The Governor's letter cited statements by Ministers that the government wanted to actively improve the university's administration by amending the RDPR University Act, and yet, "it is clearly seen that neither the Minister concerned nor the department has taken active steps for the growth of the university."

'Lethargy and indifference'

Chastising the department concerned, the government, the Governor said, "The lethargy and indifference shown for the welfare of students is in stark contrast to the glorious mirage shown in the media" despite repeated advise to call for applications.

Mr. Gehlot in the letter has asked Mr. Siddaramaiah to direct the RDPR Department to call applications at the earliest and "not leave room for unnecessary and avoidable complications and in turn affect the growth of universities in Karnataka."

BJP worker found dead

Vinay Somaiah further said that even after the case against him was stayed by the High Court, the police contacted his cousin and friends and tried to arrest him. He alleged there was a conspiracy to open a rowdy sheet against him and when he enquired about this with a constable, he was told it was being done at the behest of Mr. Ponnanna.

Police, MLA deny

However, countering allegations, a senior police official said that there was no rowdy sheet opened against Vinay Somaiah. The police claimed that they had neither moved for his arrest, nor questioned him in the case.

Mr. Ponnanna alleged that BJP was "sensationalising" the case and interfering with the probe. "The complaint says police personnel told the deceased that he was being pursued by the police at my behest. This is false. The FIR itself was stayed by the High Court," he said.

A senior Bengaluru city police official said that in the complaint by the deceased's brother, the main grouse seemed to be against Thennira Myna and not the MLAs. "If their role emerges during the probe, we can any day chargesheet them," the official said.

The official also said that at this stage, they couldn't confirm the authenticity of the message the deceased had purportedly sent to several contacts before ending his life. "There was no physical death note recovered from the scene of the crime. We have recovered his mobile which will be sent for forensic analysis and only that can authenticate the message," the official said.

(Those in distress or having suicidal tendencies can seek help from Arogya Sahayavani Ph.: 104)

'70% of maternal deaths in State between April and Dec. 2024 were preventable'

A better level of preparedness at healthcare facilities, which included ensuring the availability of requisite blood in the blood bank, drugs and consumables, uterine balloon tamponades, SR cannula, non-pneumatic anti-shock garment (NASG), etc., could also have prevented the deaths, the report states.

Addressing the report, Mr. Rao said, "Our goal is to reduce the 70% preventable deaths to 0 as in ensuring that they are prevented. Although we cannot control every aspect, if we provide our services and the quality of care which are in our control in the right way, then there will not be any such deaths. That is our target."

With 530 maternal deaths, the Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) in Karnataka stands at 57 for the year 2024-25. The Minister said that the government aims to bring the number down to 19 (and match Kerala's MMR) in the next two years.

10-day painting exhibition in memory of M.T.V. Acharya

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A painting exhibition in memory of artist and *Chandamama* magazine illustrator M.T.V. Acharya commenced on Friday.

The exhibition is being held at the Indian Institute of World Culture in Bengaluru.

The exhibition showcases Acharya's exquisite artworks, celebrating his significant contribution to art. The exhibition will be open from April 4 to 13, 10.30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Lecture

A key highlight of the event was the special visual lecture, "The Life and Artistic Journey of M.T.V. Acharya," presented by R.G. Singh.

This lecture gave the audience a deep insight into the artist's life and creative path.

Central prison in city to be trifurcated

There will be separate prisons for undertrials, convicts, and women

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The prison houses over 3,900 undertrials, 1,000 convicts, and 250 women prisoners. FILE PHOTO

The Bengaluru Central Prison at Parappana Agrahara, the largest prison in Karnataka that houses over 5,000 inmates, is being split into three prisons on the same campus. There will be separate prisons for undertrials, convicts and women prisoners. At present, only women prisoners are housed in a separate building, but within the same prison. The prison houses over 3,900 undertrials, 1,000 convicts, and 250 women prisoners and is also one of the most overcrowded prisons. The separation is to avoid undertrials and petty criminals from coming in contact with larger gangs and notorious rowdy sheeters has been a long-standing demand.

For instance, there have been two cases over the last 10 years where terror case convicts have allegedly radicalised rowdy sheeters who were undertrials in the prison, who eventually went out on bail to put together Jihadi terror modules in Bengaluru and were busted later. This comes close on the heels of multiple controversies over irregularities inside the prison. Even as residents around the prison are struggling with poor mobile networks due to the Tower Harmonic Call Blocking System (T-HCBS), mobile usage has contined unabated inside the prison, including a recent case where an inmate allegedly orchestrated a murder outside from within the prison using WhatsApp.

Revamp of security

Following the controversy over actor Darshan being given preferential treatment, wherein he was seen sitting with rowdy sheeters using mobile phones and smoking cigarettes in August last year, Home Minister G. Parameshwara had promised a revamp of the security at the prison complex.

The prison complex is now being renovated and segregation walls are being built to carve out three prisons dedicated to undertrials, convicts and women prisoners. Meanwhile, work is on to establish three separate administrations for the three prisons.

"The three prisons will be physically separated with separate entrances and inmates from one cannot move to the other. The three prisons will have independent administrations led by a dedicated jail superintendent," sources in the police said.

However, the three prisons will also be overseen by a Chief Jail Superintendent. The recently revamped control room that oversees the feed from CCTV cameras in the prison will also be common for all the three prisons. But down the line, the three prisons will get their own control rooms, hospitals and other facilities, sources said.

BBMP's delay in enforcing SWM user fee came under NGT scrutiny multiple times

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

The Solid Waste Management Committee (SWMC), constituted by the National Green Tribunal (NGT), had repeatedly highlighted the failure of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) in enforcing the mandatory user fee for waste management in the city. This issue was raised multiple times during tribunal proceedings and meetings, as revealed in an internal note prepared by BBMP for introducing the user fee.

Despite framing the Solid Waste Management (SWM) bye-law in 2020 under the then BJP-led government in Karnataka, BBMP delayed its implementation. Ironically, the BJP is now opposing the fee.

The BBMP user fee policy officially came into effect on April 1, two days after its announcement in the budget. The Urban Development Department (UDD) had already approved the proposal, though a senior BBMP official told *The Hindu* that the civic body had the independent authority to impose the fee under the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, issued under Sections 3, 6, and 25 of the Environment Protection Act, 1986. Additionally, several Centrally sponsored schemes have made user fee collection a key requirement.

The NGT Principle Bench, Delhi too, through multiple orders, emphasised the enforcement of the 'Polluter Pays Principle', which places the financial burden of waste management on those generating the waste.

SWMC

According to BBMP's internal note, the NGT has mandated periodic reports from State government on SWM implementation. A special monitoring committee (SWMC), led by a retired Karnataka High Court judge and the Upa Lokayukta, has been tracking waste management progress in Bengaluru.

This committee has consistently criticised the BBMP for failing to enforce the user fee collection, despite it being a statutory requirement, a BBMP official said.

Legal framework

The SWM user fee derives its legal foundation from the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, which empowers the government to take measures to prevent and control environmental pollution. Under this Act, the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change issued the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, mandating that all waste generators, including households, businesses, and institutions, contribute financially to waste collection and disposal.

Rule 4(3) of the SWM Rules, 2016, requires waste generators to pay a user fee set by the local municipal authority, while Rule 15(f) obligates local bodies to collect this fee. BBMP had incorporated this provision in its SWM bye-law, notified in April 2020, yet failed to implement it for years.

Cleanliness ranking

BBMP's internal note highlights that the Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) also mandates user fee collection. In the mission's first phase (launched in 2017), urban local bodies (ULBs) were advised to collect waste management charges from residents.

The second phase (2021) made it compulsory for ULBs to implement user fee within two years to qualify for Central funding.

Furthermore, Swachh Bharat Mission guidelines require municipalities to achieve at least 90% efficiency in user fee collection.

The annual Swachh Survekshan survey, which ranks cities on cleanliness and waste management, also factors in user fee implementation. Without enforcing the fee, Bengaluru risks losing central financial assistance and slipping in national cleanliness rankings, the official said.

Other civic bodies

ULB	User fee*
Pune Municipal Corporation	₹10-₹40 (for slum dwellers, a subsidy of ₹5 a month)
Mumbai Corporation of Greater Mumbai	₹100-₹1,000 (for slum dwellers ₹10 a household)
Greater Chennai Municipal Corporation	₹10-₹100
Patna Municipal Corporation	₹70
Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation	₹30-₹500
Kolkata Municipal Corporation	₹50
New Delhi Municipal Corporation	₹50-₹100

* For a month for each household (Source: BBMP internal note)

KIA surpasses 41 million passengers in FY25

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) in Bengaluru crossed the 41 million passenger mark and also surpassed 500,000 metric tonnes (MT) of cargo for the financial year 2024-25 (FY '25).

Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), operator of KIA, said that the airport welcomed 41.88 million passengers, as compared to 37.53 million in the last financial year, reflecting a growth of 11.6%.

"Domestic passenger traffic witnessed 10% growth, reaching 36.05 million, while international passenger numbers surged to 5.83 million, reflecting a 25% increase on the previous financial year. This substantial increase in international passenger numbers is largely driven by Indigo's expansion of its global network, additional daily frequencies to London Heathrow, along with increased services from several foreign carriers including Cathay Pacific, KLM, Japan Airlines and Qantas," BIAL said.

It added that KIA has consistently been ranked as India's third busiest airport for international passengers for the last four months. "It now offers non-stop connectivity to 76 domestic and 33 international destinations, with Hanoi set to become the 34th international destination starting early May 2025," BIAL said.

On the cargo front, KIA achieved a significant milestone by surpassing the 500,000 metric tonnes (MT) mark for the first time, handling a total of 502,480 MT of cargo in the financial year 2024-25 (FY'25). This achievement marks a notable 14% year-on-year growth, reinforcing the Airport's position as a key logistics hub for both India and global trade. Cargo growth was driven by a 21% rise in international cargo, totalling 321,418 MT, while domestic cargo grew 4%, reaching 181,062 MT.

BIAL said that for the fourth consecutive year, KIA retained its position as India's number one airport for perishable exports, reinforcing its role in strengthening the country's agricultural supply chain.

"The Airport continues to lead in mango and coriander exports, with cargo demand further driven by ready-made garments, pharmaceuticals, and machinery parts," BIAL said.

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NIRMAL HARINDRAN

Vidarbha: the making of a modern-day domestic cricket giant

The team has won three Ranji Trophy titles in the last seven seasons, having never previously entered the final of India's premier tournament. It won eight of ten games during its unbeaten 2024-25 campaign, including a memorable semifinal victory over 42-time champion Mumbai. Just what has led to the stunning transformation?

P.K. Ajith Kumar

Prashant Vaidya was once rated the fastest bowler in India. He will quickly remind you though that a certain Javagal Srinath was very fast, too.

Unlike Srinath's, Vaidya's career was cut short by injuries; he ended up playing just four ODIs. But, he went on to play a key role in turning Vidarbha into one of the giants of domestic cricket, from an outfit that used to be the third best among the three teams from the State of Maharashtra in the Ranji Trophy.

Spectacular achievement

Last month, Vidarbha lifted its third Ranji Trophy in seven seasons. For a team that, Vaidya says, even cricketers didn't know existed during his playing days, that is quite an achievement: remember, glamorous teams like Tamil Nadu and Hyderabad haven't won Indian cricket's most prestigious domestic title as many times.

The first of those titles came in 2017-18, after shocking Delhi in its maiden final by nine wickets at Indore. Chandrakant Pandit, probably the most successful coach in Indian cricket, was in charge of the team. Skipper Faiz Fazal led from the front, scoring 912 runs at 70.15.

The following year, Fazal's men retained their crown, beating Saurashtra by 78 runs in the final, which they played at home. Five years later, Vidarbha lost the final in Mumbai to the host.

> I remember the first time I got selected in the Indian team, a senior player asked me where I was from. When I told him I started my cricket with Vidarbha, he asked if Vidarbha had a Ranji team
>
> **PRASHANT VAIDYA**
> Chairman, VCA development committee

The team was back in the familiar environs of Jamtha for this year's final. Vidarbha, in fact, played all its three knockout matches at home: that was because it had scored, in the league stage, more points than its rivals, Tamil Nadu, Mumbai and Kerala.

After beating Tamil Nadu and Mumbai outright, Vidarbha was very much the favourite against Kerala, which was playing its maiden final. The host could not force another outright win, but a first-innings lead of 37 runs proved enough in the end for its third title: with a superb second-innings hundred, Karun Nair batted Kerala out of the match.

Vidarbha had done the right thing last season by signing Karun up after the Test triple-centurion was dropped by Karnataka. It was Kerala that he had first approached, though – it is the State of his origin. But the Kerala Cricket Association officials seemingly weren't keen, and Karun spoke of it in numerous interviews with the large media contingent that had travelled to Nagpur from Kerala.

This wasn't the first time Vidarbha was making good use of talent from beyond its borders. The Mumbai-made run-machine, Wasim Jaffer, was a part of the Vidarbha team that won the Ranji trophy on the two previous occasions.

Shortly after the final ended, Vidarbha coach Usman Ghani was asked by a reporter if it was time for the team to field only home-grown players. "No, we will need the services of players like Karun," he said. "Ours is a young batting side and we need guidance from the professionals."

Coming of age

Some of those young batters seem to be coming of age. Yash Rathod, in fact, was the Ranji Trophy's leading run-getter, with 960 runs, while Danish Malewar made 783 and was the player-of-the-final with scores of 153 and 73. The season's highest wicket-taker is also from Vidarbha – Harsh Dubey, who scalped 69 with his left-arm spin.

Vaidya is delighted that Vidarbha is now producing so many quality young cricketers.

"I remember the first time I got selected in the Indian team, a senior player asked me where I was from," he tells *The Hindu*. "When I told him I started my cricket with Vidarbha, he asked me if Vidarbha had a Ranji Trophy team. So it is gratifying to note that we have come a long way from those days, when people didn't even know that we played Ranji Trophy. At the national level, we have won about a dozen trophies in the last eight years."

So how did it all begin?

"Shashank Manohar [former BCCI president] asked me to join the Vidarbha Cricket Association as an administrator and we came up with this idea of starting an academy, way back in 2008-09," Vaidya recalls. "And we wanted to focus on junior cricket. This stadium, at Jamtha, had not come up yet, and we started the academy at the old stadium. That is where I believe the whole thing started. The seeds were sown there."

As the director of the academy, Vaidya wanted to draft youngsters from outside Nagpur. "We wanted to focus more on talents in the districts, I felt there was a lot of talent there," he says.

"When I was in the Ranji Trophy team for Vidarbha, we hardly had any representation from outside Nagpur. The entire playing eleven would be from Nagpur; maybe one odd player here or there. Now in any age group, half of the team is from the districts. In the first year of our academy, we selected about 60 kids in the under-16 and 19 categories."

Then Vaidya ensured the services of excellent coaches. "We had Sulakshan Kulkarni join us," says Vaidya, now the chairman of the development committee of the VCA. "Then we got Subroto Banerjee to come as a bowling coach. And we also roped in Neil D'Costa from Australia."

He says the players are still picked from open trials. "We do that every summer. We have a mass selection programme. We announce it and just go and randomly select players."

Within a few years of starting the academy, Vidarbha began to do well in the age-group tournaments. "We were qualifying for the knockout stages, but only when you win a trophy, will people take note. That happened with us in 2016-17, when we won the Vijay Merchant Trophy (Under-16). And Harsh Dubey is from that lot."

Spark of inspiration

Then, of course, came Vidarbha's greatest moment: its first Ranji Trophy title. Vaidya gives a lot of credit to coach Pandit.

"I always wanted him, after playing a lot of cricket in Mumbai," he says. "I had a very good relationship with Chandu for so many years. I knew he was the coach Vidarbha needed. I had tried to get him even before, in 2012-13, but he was always engaged. In 2016-17, he was relieved by Mumbai and when I met him at Dilip Vengsarkar's daughter's wedding reception, I told him he had to come to Vidarbha now."

Pandit accepted the invitation. "The rest is history," says Vaidya, smiling. "Chandu was part of the process of selection and we involved him in everything, and gave him complete freedom. Winning the Ranji Trophy remains the happiest moment of my career."

It looks like there will be more happy moments for Vaidya and others involved with Vidarbha cricket.

> We wanted to focus on junior cricket. The stadium at Jamtha had not come up yet, and we started the academy at the old stadium. That is where I believe the whole thing started. The seeds were sown there
>
> **VAIDYA**

GAME THEORY

Gurindervir Singh: gone in 10.20 seconds

Gurindervir Singh stormed into the record books last week, breaking the men's 100m national record with a 10.20-second run at the Indian Grand Prix 1. We take a look at the fastest Indian 100m runs of all time, Gurindervir's progression over the years, and where he stands both among Asia's best 100m athletes of all time and the quickest runners in 2025

GURINDERVIR SINGH

K. MURALI KUMAR

FASTEST 100M RUNS: INDIAN MEN

Mark	Competitor	Venue	Date
10.20	Gurindervir Singh	Bengaluru	28 Mar 2025
10.21	Anil Kumar	Bengaluru	05 Jul 2000
10.22	Manikanta Hoblidhar	Bengaluru	28 Mar 2025
10.23	Manikanta Hoblidhar	Bengaluru	11 Oct 2023
10.25	Amlan Borgohain	Raebareli	29 Aug 2022
10.26	Amiya Kumar Mallick	New Delhi	28 Apr 2016
10.27	Gurindervir Singh	Patiala	26 Jun 2021
10.27	Animesh Kujur	Salamanca	01 Jun 2024
10.28	K.S. Pranav	Bhubaneshwar	05 Sep 2021
10.28	Amlan Borgohain	Gujarat	30 Sep 2022
10.28	Animesh Kujur	Dehradun	08 Feb 2025
10.29	V.K. Elakkiadasan	Gujarat	30 Sep 2022
10.30	Anil Kumar	New Delhi	24 Aug 2005
10.30	Md Abdul Najeeb Qureshi	New Delhi	06 Oct 2010
10.30	Gurindervir Singh	Patiala	15 Mar 2021

GURINDERVIR SINGH'S 100M PROGRESSION

Year	Mark	Venue
2017	10.69	Bangkok
2018	10.47	Coimbatore
2019	10.35	Patiala
2021	10.27	Patiala
2022	10.93	Thenhipalam
2023	10.50	Bhubaneshwar
2024	10.32	Panchkula
2025	10.20	Bengaluru

21st
Fastest athlete in 2025

87th
Fastest athlete in Asia (all time)

SOURCE: WORLD ATHLETICS

PICTURE THIS

GETTY IMAGES

Locking horns

Two wrestlers compete in the NCAA Division I men's championship at the Wells Fargo Centre in Philadelphia.

Collegiate wrestling — commonly known as folkstyle wrestling — is a distinctly American phenomenon. Like the Olympic discipline of freestyle wrestling, the collegiate version traces its origins to catch wrestling, a form that developed in English fairs.

By the 20th century, collegiate wrestling had evolved along different lines. There is greater emphasis on control, typically by limiting the opponent's legs or torso. When a wrestler is able to restrain another, they are said to have the advantage.

Throws aren't illegal, but unlike in international styles of wrestling, they don't have the same significance, in terms of winning points.

In addition to being contested at the post-secondary level in the United States, folkstyle is also practised, with some modifications, at high school, middle school and elementary levels.

Kurt Angle, Brock Lesnar, Cain Velasquez and Daniel Cormier are some of the best-known athletes who started out in collegiate wrestling.

Exhibition on feminist and democratic histories

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The National Law School of India University's (NLSIU) Law and Society Archives has launched 'Maps of Memory: The Uma Chakravarti Collection', an exhibition that brings together feminist and democratic histories from across South Asia. Hosted at the Bangalore International Centre from March 29 to April 6, the exhibition features archival fragments – posters, photographs, films, and documents – that trace networks of activism, solidarity, and political imagination from the mid-20th century onwards.

Curated by NLSIU faculty Diya Deviah and Ammel Sharon, the exhibition draws from the personal collection of renowned historian, filmmaker, and activist Uma Chakravarti. It gives a glimpse into people's movements across India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka, exploring how feminists imagined alternative futures through acts of resistance, community, and care. The exhibition is structured around four thematic sections, including Archiving Feminist Histories, Friendships Beyond Borders, Democratic Participation and Civil Liberties, and Counterpublics and the Classroom. Each theme is introduced through a video, offering viewers the curators' interpretive lens and unpacking the layered meaning of materials on display.

Of particular interest to Bengaluru audiences is the inclusion of a newsletter from the city-based women's organisation Vimochana, whose visuals were later borrowed by Sri Lankan activists for their own publications.

Book release programme at Madhyama Chitana Vedike

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Madhyama Chitana Vedike is organising a book release programme on Sunday, April 6.

Veteran journalist Nagamani S. Rao's Autobiography 'SuddiSangathiya Swagatha' published by Vikasa Prakashana will be released by writer Hampa Nagarajaiah.

Chairperson of Karnataka Media Academy, Ayesha Khanum, and president of Karnataka Women Writers Association, H.L. Pushpa, will be the chief guest. The event will be held at B.M. Sri Auditorium, 3rd Main Road, N.R. Colony, Bengaluru, at 10.30 a.m.

Exhibition on artist K.G. Subramanyan

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath will host the exhibition 'One Hundred Years and Counting: Rescripting K.G. Subramanyan (The Bangalore Edition)'.

The exhibition, which will run from April 5 to May 20, celebrates the legacy of Indian modernist K.G. Subramanyan (1924-2016) on the centenary of his birth. It is curated by cultural theorist Nancy Adajania.

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SBI Nyamati branch burglary: Six arrested

The Hindu Bureau
HUBBALLI

The arrest of six persons, including some from Tamil Nadu, in connection with a theft six months ago of over 17 kg of gold valued at ₹13 crore from the Nyamati branch of the State Bank of India in Davangere district, has revealed that the accused had planned the heist for six to seven months by watching crime series on OTT and social media platforms.

Pledged ornaments
Pledged gold ornaments were stolen from the Nyamati branch on October 28, 2024. Initial investigation revealed that the offenders had entered the bank through a window on the left side of the main hall after removing its iron grill, and one of the lockers in the strongroom had been opened with a gas cutter and emptied.

The offenders had also taken away the DVR containing all CCTV footage, and interestingly, had spread chilli powder all across the bank premises.

Investigation carried out on the basis of technical evidence helped the Davangere police crack the case, said IGP (Eastern Range), Davangere, B.R. Ravikanthe Gowda.

First-time offenders
All the accused, including prime accused Vijaykumar, 30, are first-time offenders. Of the accused, Vijaykumar, his brother Ajay Kumar, 28, and his brother-in-law Paramananda, 30, are natives of Madurai in Tamil Nadu but were running a sweetmeat shop in Nyamati for the last few years. The other accused are Abheesheka, 23, Chandru, 23, and Manjunath, 32, and they are natives of Nyamati.

Mr. Gowda said Vijaykumar had planned the heist in revenge as his loan application for ₹15 lakh and another by his brother were rejected by the bank. During interrogation, Vijaykumar admitted watching the *Money Heist* crime series over 15 times.

Mr. Gowda said that the accused carried out the burglary on October 26, 2024 and transported the stolen gold in a car that was parked 3 km away from the bank.

The prime accused had hidden the locker containing the stolen gold in a 30-ft irrigation well in Usalampatti town in Madurai district of Tamil Nadu.

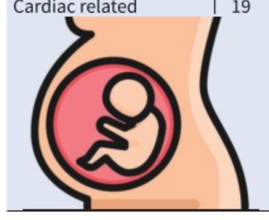
Panel gives 27 recommendations to prevent maternal deaths

The expert team audited 464 such cases in the State between April and December 2024

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Primary causes of maternal deaths

Cause	Number of deaths
Hypertensive disorders in pregnancy	153
Hamorrhage	125
Sepsis	42
Others	28
Cardiac related	19



Recommendations to prevent maternal deaths

- Tracking and counselling of antenatal mothers between ANC visits
- Contacting high-risk mothers telephonically in the eighth and ninth months
- Mandatory three-day hospital stay post normal birth and 5-7 days stay following C- section
- Birth planning to be done for all pregnant women
- Obstetric OPD in medical college hospitals and district hospitals to be supervised by senior obstetrician

Improved quality of antenatal care (ANC), early screening of high risk pregnancies, month-wise counselling and tracking of ANC visits, telephonic contact for high-risk mother during eighth and ninth month of pregnancy and mandatory three-day stay at the hospital post natural delivery and five to seven-day stay post c-section: these are some of the recommendations given by the government constituted team of technical health experts to prevent maternal deaths in Karnataka.

The experts audited 464 maternal deaths in the State between April and December 2024 and made several recommendations based on the findings in the report submitted to the government.

The report says that every antenatal mother should be tracked and counselled for at least one ANC visit between the second and seventh months of the pregnancy and two visits in the eighth month and weekly visits in the ninth month. In addition, it recommends that the high-risk mothers should be contacted telephonically during the eight and ninth month to ascertain the status of their health.

The experts have said that the primary health care team led by the medical officer should make birth plans with all the pregnant women in consultation with the obstetrician at the nearby Community Health Centres at the taluk or district levels. These plans should include necessary logistics like transportation arrangements either through 108 or other local transport options.

The report says that all public health care facilities should keep mothers in the hospitals for the mandated number of days post-delivery and also counsel them regarding the medications and follow up visits at the time of discharge.

Common disorders
With anaemia being one of the most common disorders among pregnant women, the report suggests administering the correct dosage of iron sucrose or Ferric carboxymaltose (FCM) to correct moderate and severe anaemia.

"The report has given us 27 recommendations, and we have already started implementation of some of them. We are ensuring that women with high-risk pregnancies are compulsorily consulting with senior experts. We are also procuring FCM for the correction of anaemia and other necessary testing kits," said Dinesh Gundu Rao, Health Minister.

The medical experts team was constituted after a series of maternal deaths in Ballari in November last year. When the deaths occurred, it was found that Intravenous Ringer Lactate from Paschim Banga pharmaceuticals was the common factor in all of them. The company was later blacklisted by the Karnataka government.

Between April 2024 and December 2024, the team suspects that 18 maternal deaths occurred due to endotoxins and Intravenous Ringer Lactate was used in all of those cases.

'Amendment to RGUHS Act under consideration'

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

Sharan Prakash Patil

In the interest of the smooth administration of Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS), there have been thoughts at the government level to amend the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences Act (Amended)-2014, Sharan Prakash Patil, Minister of Medical Education and Skill Development, said.

Speaking at *The Hindu* office on Thursday, he said discussions have been held regarding appointing Medical Officers for the post of Registrar (Administration) instead of an IAS officer.

"Earlier, during the tenure of the Congress government, when I was the Medical Education Minister, steps were taken to amend the RGUHS Act after some administrative complaints were received. I tabled a Bill in the Assembly, but the amendment could not be made. Many rules need to be streamlined for the smooth administration of the university. There has been a discussion on amending some rules," he said.

There are two Registrar posts in the university, and medical officers are being appointed for the post of Registrar (Evaluation) and an IAS officer is being appointed for the post of Registrar (Administration). Since RGUHS is a fully-fledged medical university, appointing medical officers for the post of Registrar (Administration) will make the administrative system smoother, and help make policy decisions. Discussions have been held to amend the Act to appoint medical officers for the post of Registrar (Administration)," said Mr. Patil.

On whether there is an intention to curtail the powers of the Governor by amending the RGUHS Act, he said there is not. "Currently, the rule in place is for medical colleges to get affiliation from the university every year. There has been demand for changes in these rules. We have decided to implement quality parameters to improve the quality of education in Allied Health Sciences Institutes," he stated.

Discussion on Applied Behavioural Analysis

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In recognition of International Autism Day, Bangalore International Centre (BIC) will hold a discussion on 'Understanding ABA (Applied Behaviour Analysis) for Autism: Raising awareness and dispelling myths, on Sunday.

The discussion will feature Radhika Poovayya, founder, Samvaad Institute for Speech and Hearing; Noor Ayesha and Nischita, senior ABA therapists, Chitra Shankar, developmental pediatrician; Preethi Shankar, occupational therapist; Jovitha Catherine Joy, speech language pathologist; and Sunanda Kolhe, cognitive psychologist. Bharathi Prabhu, speech pathologist, will moderate the session.

The event is at 5.30 p.m. at BIC, 7, 4th Main Road, Domlur, II Stage.

Elderly man falls victim to honey trap

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 68-year-old man was allegedly blackmailed for ₹2 crore by a 25-year-old woman and her accomplices in a case of honey-trap in Koramangala police station limits. The woman allegedly showed video of their private moments to demand money.

According to the police, the accused filmed a compromising act of the elderly man and her and used it to blackmail him.

When the victim hesitated, the perpetrators threatened to leak the videos on social media. After negotiations, they agreed to settle for ₹40 lakh.

The Koramangala police have registered a case and launched an investigation. The complainant claimed that the accused Ajay and Abhi, accomplices of the woman, morphed the videos to blackmail him.

Timings
BENGALURU

SATURDAY, APR. 05			
RISE	06:13	SET	18:31
RISE	12:19	SET	00:46
SUNDAY, APR. 06			
RISE	06:13	SET	18:31
RISE	13:18	SET	01:41
MONDAY, APR. 07			
RISE	06:12	SET	18:31
RISE	14:12	SET	02:28

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	34	25
Mysuru	33	20
Bengaluru	33	22

Bengaluru Today
30°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower with gusty wiinds to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
32°C The weather will be mostly dry. Day will be litte warm Night will be pleasant.

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THE HINDU
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Rail Wheel Plant/Bela
(Distt. - Saran), Bihar - 841221
E-TENDER NOTICE
E-Tender No.: UTLS-1-2025, Dy. CME/WFPS, Rail Wheel Plant, Bela acting for and on behalf of **President of India**, invites Open e-tender through Indian Railways specialized tendering portal **www.ireps.gov.in** from reputed firms based on single packet system for the under mentioned work. **1. Name of work with its location and completion period :** Name of Work: "Complete erection, installation & testing with material" of overhead PNG pipeline from DRS (IOCL) to Normalizing Furnace at RWP/Bela. **Location:** At RWP/Bela, **Completion Period: 06 Months. 2. Approx. cost of the work :** Rs. ₹81,51,135.56, **3. Bid security to be Deposited:** ₹1,63,300.00, **4. Tender closing date and time :** 24.04.2025 at 15:00 hrs., **5. Website particulars, Notice Board location where complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc. :** For full details and submission of bid tenderer/bidder may kindly visit Indian Railways specialized tendering Portal **www.ireps.gov.in**. The tenderer(s)/bidder(s) are directed to remain connected with IREPS Portal **www.ireps.gov.in** for updates including Addendum/Corrigendum/Cancellation with respect to the above tender.
Dy. CME/WFPS, RWP/Bela
RWP/CPRO/ADVT/2025-26/04

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform the General Public that my Client **Mr.Manoj Kumar Drolia**, Son of Late Seetharam Drolia (Phone No.9845005716) has negotiated to purchase below mentioned Schedule Property from its present owner Mr.B.N.Shravan, S/of. B.S.Naveen presently residing at No.G-2 'Eden au lac', Old Madras Road, Indiranagar, Bangalore-38 who has acquired the title & Possession by virtue of Registered Gift Deed dt:-09/12/2022 executed and registered by his Mother Smt.B.N.Sundara Lakshmi. Any person/s, institution/s having any right, title, interest, claim, demand, charge or encumbrance over the schedule property may notify his/their claim or objections if any, together with documentary proof to the undersigned **within Fifteen (15) days** from the date of this notice, failing which it would be conclusively presumed and deemed that no person/s has/have any right, title, interest, claim, charge or encumbrance whatsoever in the Schedule Property and further my client will be entitled to proceed with the transaction and get register the Schedule Property.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of property bearing Municipal No.42 Old No.41/42, PID No.48-55-42, e.Aasthi e.PID No.13894143980 situated at Lalbagh Fort Road, Bangalore, Presently of BBMP Ward No.118, Measuring East to West-17 feet and North to South-60feet in all measuring 1020 square feet. Bounded on the: **East by:** Parvathamma's House, **West by:** 3 feet Passage attached to Bhogananjundeshwara Temple, **North by**: Chinnaiah's House and Thota, **South by:** Lalbagh Fort Road.
R.A. RAHMAN, Advocate
#1, " Tipu Chambers", 2nd Floor, 4th Cross, N.R. Road, Bangalore - 560 002.
Date: 03/04/2025

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY
(Advertised E-Tendering Tender Notice No. DY.CE-C-III-BPL-02-2025 Dated: 30.03.2025
E-Tender [Two packet system] on behalf of the President of India acting through Dy Chief Engineer-III [Construction], West Central Railway, Bhopal invites tenders for the following works. **Tender No.:** DY.CE-C-III-BPL-02-2025, **Description of work:** Construction of Service building and good shed between Ranikamlapati-Biaora Rajgarh station in connection with Ramganjmandi-Bhopal New BG Rail Line Project of Bhopal Division, West Central Railway, under Dy.CE/E-III/BPL., **Approx cost of tender:** 2568.93 lacs, **Earnest Money (Rs.):** 1434500.00, **Date of opening of tender:** 21.04.2025 at 15:00 hrs, **Completion period:** 15 months including harvest & monsoon period. The complete information of above E-Tender is available in website **IREPS (www.ireps.gov.in)** and also placed on the notice board of the office of Dy.CE/C/BPL. Tenders other than in the form of e-bids shall not be accepted against above tenders.
Dy Chief Engineer [Constn-III], WCR, Bhopal
स्वच्छ भारत अभियान
एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
RAMESWARAM MUNICIPALITY
Roc No: 130/2023 /H1 **TENDER NOTICE (TWO COVER SYSTEM)** **Dated: 02-04-2025**
Bids are invited by the Municipal Commissioner, Rameswaram for the selection of Service Provider / Agency / Contractor / Company for Implementation of Solid Waste Management activities under General Fund and 15th CFC Tied Funds 2024-25 for three years in Rameswaram Municipality.
1. Work Value (One Year) : **Rs.481.61 lakhs**
2. Earnest Money Deposit Amount : **Rs.4,81,612/-**
3. Bid document can be downloaded from the website **https://tntenders.tn.gov.in** from **09-04-2025** at free of cost and the full details of the tenders can be had from the above website address.
4. Common dates and time
   A. Date and time of Pre-Bid Meeting : **21-04-2025/11.00AM**
   B. Last date and time for downloading bid documents : **09-05-2025/3.00PM**
   C. Last date and time for submission of bid document, including online submission : **09-05-2025/3.00PM**
   D. Date and time of opening of the Technical bid : **09-05-2025/3.30PM**
5. In the event of specified date for submission of bids is declared as holiday, bids will be received and opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
6. Any changes/modifications in this tender will be published in the above website only.
DIPR/1359/TENDER/2025
Commissioner, Rameswaram Municipality

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
DEPARTMENT OF TEXTILES
34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai - 600 034.
Ref. No.979/2024/G1 **Dated:05.04.2025**
Call for Research and Business Development Proposals in Technical Textiles and Man-Made Fibres
Research and Business Development proposals are invited from Research Bodies/Industries which aim for New Product Development and Research in Technical Textiles and Man-Made Fibres.
Interested Research Bodies/Industries can send their applications with the mandatory documents through the online portal **https://tntextiles.tn.gov.in.** For Details of the project and guidelines refer to the G.O. (Ms) No.18, HHT&K (C2) Dept. Dated.30.01.2025.
DIPR/1349/TENDER/2025
Director Directorate of Textiles

अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, गुवाहाटी
ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, GUWAHATI
(A statutory body under the aegis of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI)
Changsari, Kamrup, Assam-781101, Website: www.aiimsguwahati.ac.in
Ref.No. 2-413/2023-24/AIIMS/GHY/ESTT./RECT-NURSING - FACULTY/4066 Date: 18.03.2025
NOTIFICATION
ROLLING ADVERTISEMENT FOR RECRUITMENT OF TUTOR/CLINICAL INSTRUCTOR IN THE COLLEGE OF NURSING AT AIIMS GUWAHATI ON DIRECT RECRUITMENT BASIS – 2025
COLLEGE OF NURSING, AIIMS, GUWAHATI

Sr.No.	Post	Number	Category
01.	Tutor/ Clinical Instructor in Nursing	05	UR-03; OBC-01; EWS-01

Unreserved (UR), Other Backward Classes (OBC), Economically Weaker Sections (EWS).
Note :-
1. The above vacancies are provisional and subject to variation. The Executive Director, AIIMS, Guwahati reserves the right to vary the vacancies including reserved vacancies as per the Govt. of India Rules/Circulars and requirements or otherwise.
2. The first cut-off date shall be 30 days from publication of said advertisement in the Employment News,
3. The application will be made available on AIIMS, Guwahati official website i.e. **https://aiimsguwahati.ac.in.** The link for submission of online applications in respect of above said posts along with other relevant information will be activated on the date of advertisement as posted on the website.
Sd/-
Executive Director
AIIMS, Guwahati

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, RAMGARH
(Office of District Skill Officer, Ramgarh)
Tender Ref. No. **Date:-**
The District Skills Officer (the "Authority") intends to engage an agency for a period of 12 (Twelve) months for Training and Certification of 180 Amins in Ramgarh District (Phase – I). However, the Authority at sole discretion reserves the right to invite fresh bid for the said premises if required.
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Request for Proposal for Selection of Agency for Training and Certification of 180 Amin in Ramgarh District

Sl.	Information	Details
1	Name of Work	Selection of Agency for Training and Certification of 180 Amin in Ramgarh District, Jharkhand
2	Period of Works	1 Year
3	Tender Cost/Document Fee	Rs. 10,000.00 (Ten Thousand only in form of DD) in favour of District Skill Officer, Ramgarh. The bid processing fee shall be submitted along with the 1st inner Envelope of the Technical Proposal.
4	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	INR. 2,30,000.00 (Rs. Two Lakh Thirty Thousand only in form of DD) in favour of "District Skill Officer, Ramgarh"
5	Last date and time of receipt of Bid	Date : 17/04/2025 Time: 03:00 PM
6	Date and time of Opening of Bid	Date: 17/04/2025 Time: 04:00 PM
7	Bid Submission Place	Office of District Skill Officer (Near Ramgarh Block Campus), Ramgarh - 829122
8	Date, time and venue for the power point presentation and opening of Bid	Date: Time: Deputy Commissioner Officer, Ramgarh "A" Block, 1st Floor, CollectorateRamgarh, Chhattramandu, Ramgarh – 825101

Note :
1. Office of the Skill Officer reserves the right to change any schedule, please visit the website mentioned in the RFP documents regularly for the same.
2. Proposal must be received no later than time, date and venue mentioned in the Fact Sheet. Proposal that are received after the specified date and time will not be considered.
3. The selected bidder may convert the EMD into performance security by submitting a new Demand Draft in favour of Bidding Authority.
PR 349687 Labour Employment and Traning(25-26).D
Sd/-
Deputy Commissioner, Ramgarh

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule property from its owners: **(i)Sri.RAMASWAMY.V, (ii) Sri.MUNIRAJU.V** and **(iii) Sri.PAPANNA.V,** all are sons of late Venkataswamy, residing at: No.55, 1st Main, Hosakerehalli, BSK 3rd stage, Bengaluru – 560085.
Apart from the said owners, if any other person/s have any manner of claim or interest or demand over the Schedule property or any part thereof by way of sale, lease, mortgage, gift, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, pre-emption or otherwise howsoever, they are hereby requested to file their objection/s (along with the photocopies of the documents on which they are relying), with the undersigned within **10 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.
SCHEDULE
All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing Municipal No.71/A, PID No.49-38-71/A, measuring East to West 65ft and North to South 20ft, in all measuring 1300 Sq.ft., together with an old house thereon, situated at Ramakrishna Mutt Layout, Gavipura Guttahalli, K.G.Nagar, Bangalore and bounded on:
East by : Road
West by : Property belongs to Boraiah
North by : Property belongs to Ramanna
South by : Private property
Sd/- **S.F. GOUTAM CHAND**, Advocate,
GOUTAM ASSOCIATES,
No.60, 2nd Floor, Old Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bengaluru - 560004

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
Ministry of Finance, Department of Fiancial Services
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, BANGALORE (DRT-2)
4th Floor, Telephone House Builiding Rajbhavan Road Bengaluru - 560001
Form No. 14 (See Regulation 33(2))
DEMAND NOTICE
Notice under Sections 25 to 28 of the Recovery of Debts & Bankruptcy Act, 1993 and Rule 2 of Second Schedule to the Income Tax Act, 1961.
RC No. 658/2023 IN OA No. 1206/2017
Karnataka Bank Limited V/s Sri B. Basavaraju & Others
To: (CH) Karnataka Bank Limited, No. 13 J.R. Plaza, Near Siddaganga High School, Kanakapura Road, Raghuvanahalli, Bengaluru - 560 062, Karnaraka . **... Certificate Holder**
Vs
(CD 1) Sri B. Basavaraju S/o. Sri Basave Gowda, No. 43/21, Aralimarada Doddi Village, Kallanakuppe Post, Maralavadi Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramangara District - 562 212, Karnataka.
(CD 2) Sri Basave Gowda (Since decesed) S/o. Late Basave Gowda, Rep by his Legal Heirs
Legal Heir: 2(A) Sri B. Basavaraju, S/o. Late Basave Gowda, No. 43/21, Aralimarada Doddi Village, Kallanakuppe Post, Maralavadi Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramangara District - 562 212.Karnataka.
Legal Heir: 2(B) Smt. Ankamma W/o. Sri Basave Gowda, No. 43/21, Aralimarada Doddi Village, Kallanakuppe Post, Mralavadi Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramangara District - 562 212.Karnataka.
Legal Heir: 2(C) Sri B. V. Ravikumar, S/o. Late Basave Gowda, No. 43/21, Aralimarada Doddi Village, Kallanakuppe Post, Mralavadi Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramangara District - 562 212.Karnataka.
... Certificate Debtors
This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, BANGALORE (DRT-2) in **OA /1206/2017** an amount of **Rs.65,38,330/-** (Rupees Sixty Five Lakhs Thirty Eight Thousands Three Hundred and Thirty Only) along with pedentellite and future interest @ 19.75% Compound Interest Monthly w.e.f. 21.08.2017 till realization and costs of Rs.68005/- (Rupees Sixty Eight Thousands and Five Only) has become due against you Jointly and severally. 2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 and Rules there under. 3.You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of yours assets on or before the next date of hearing. 4. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, for further proceedings. 5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will be liable to pay: (a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate/ execution proceedings. (b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processess and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.
Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on **14.02.2024.**
Sd/- Recovery Officer,
Debts Recovery Tribunal (DRT -2)
Note: Attention is invited to Rule 16 of the Second Schedule of the Income Tax Act 1961 read with Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 which is reproduced below: **"Rule 16** (1) Where a notice has been served on a defaulter under Rule 2, the defaulter or his representative or his representative in interest shall not be competent to mortgage, charge, lease or otherwise deal with any property belonging to him except with the permission of the Debt Recovery Officer, nor shall any Civil Court issue any process against such property in execution of a decree for the payment of money. (2) Where an attachment has been made under this Schedule any private transfer or delivery of the property attached or of any interest therein and any payment to the defaulter of any debt, dividend or other monies contrary to such attachment, shall be void, as against all claims enforceable under the attachment".(3) You are also liable to disclose your assets both movable and immovable to this Tribunal along with the Income Tax Returns of last 5 years.

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRP Act).
ISSN 0971 - 751X

PROPERTYPLUS
HOMES AND REAL ESTATE NEWS
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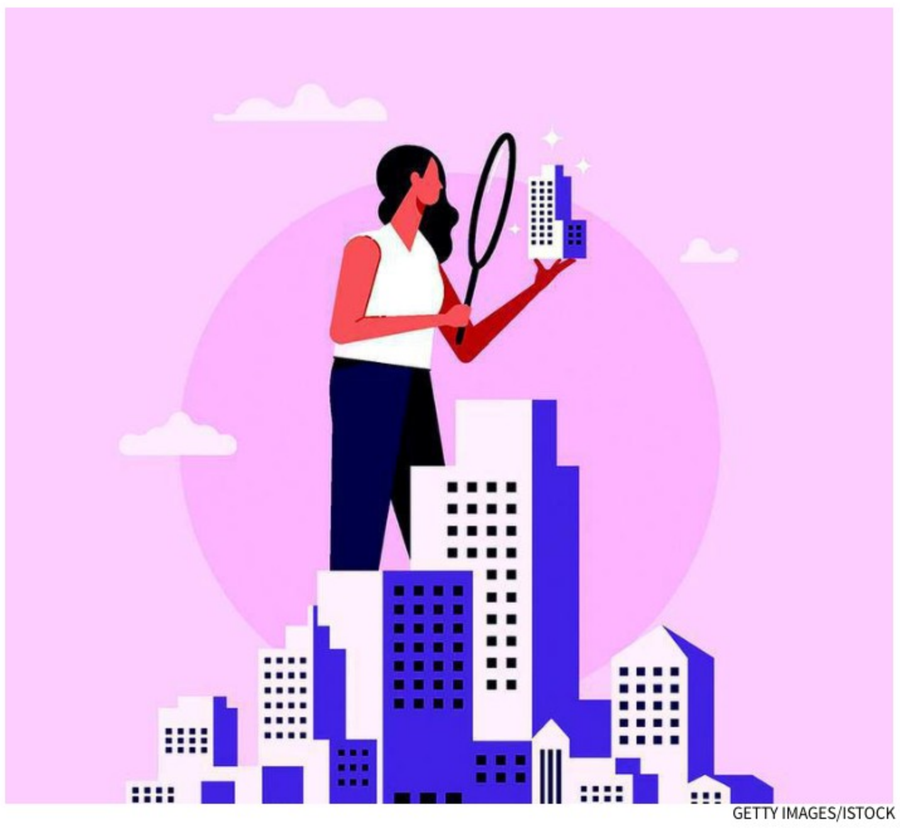
THE HINDU

REALTY

Women homebuyers and the property boom

Favourable lending policies, stable returns, and the security of home ownership make real estate an attractive investment avenue for women



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

Ranjeeth Rathod

The real estate sector in India is witnessing a noteworthy transformation, with women emerging as key investors in the property market.

A recent survey by leading consultancy firm Anarock has revealed that in the latter half of 2024, real estate became the most preferred investment avenue for 70% of women. A look into the evolving trend, and the factors driving women's participation in real estate, their preferences, and the challenges they encounter in the process.

Financial independence

According to the 2019-20 Annual Survey of Industries released by the Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Tamil Nadu accounts for 6.79 lakh, or 43%, of the 15.8 lakh women employed in industries across India. The state's female workforce participation rate exceeds the national average. Tamil Nadu, particularly Chennai, boasts one of the highest female workforces in the country, propelled by strong employment opportunities in manufacturing and the service industry.

This financial independence has given women greater autonomy in making real estate investments, with many opting to purchase properties independently or as co-applicants. This trend signifies a notable shift towards economic empowerment and long-term financial security.

Attractive incentives

Financial institutions and developers have introduced a range of benefits aimed at encouraging women to invest in property. Banks offer preferential home loan rates for women, typically providing a discount of 0.25% to 0.5% on interest rates.

Additionally, some developers extend special incentives, offering price reductions ranging from ₹50,000 to ₹1 lakh for women buyers. These incentives make real estate a financially attractive investment choice.

Long-term asset

Women often prioritise stability and long-term financial security over high-risk investments. Traditionally, gold has been their preferred asset due to its steady appreciation and reliability. However, real estate – whether in the form of residential plots or apartments – is increasingly being viewed in a similar light. Unlike equities, which are subject to market fluctuations, real estate offers stability, making it a compelling investment choice.

Rental income

For many women investors, real estate serves as a means of ensuring financial independence. Rental income provides a steady source of earnings, allowing them to manage personal expenses without relying on spouses or family members. Monthly rental returns, whether ₹15,000, ₹25,000, or even ₹40,000, offer a sense of financial security and autonomy.

Preference for stability

Women investors generally demonstrate a lower appetite for risk, making real estate a preferred asset class over equities. The inherent volatility of stock markets, where prices can experience drastic fluctuations, often discourages women from investing. In contrast, real estate is known for its resilience, with property prices seldom witnessing sharp declines. This preference for low-risk, stable investments underscores the growing trend of women choosing real estate as a wealth-building avenue.

Community living

Beyond financial considerations, women are increasingly drawn to apartment living due to the enhanced security and community environment it offers. Modern residential complexes come equipped with amenities such as swimming pools, gyms, jogging tracks, and children's play areas, fostering a sense of belonging and social engagement.

Unlike previous decades, when residential buildings were typically smaller with limited amenities, contemporary housing developments now emphasise community living, further strengthening their appeal among women homebuyers.

Cost preference

Research indicates that women prefer homes priced between ₹70 lakh and ₹80 lakh, considering this an optimal investment range. Their home-buying decisions are influenced by several functional and practical considerations, including:

Kitchen layout and design: A well-planned kitchen with ample space and utility areas remains top priority.

Dedicated wardrobe space: Many women seek a separate wardrobe or dressing area for enhanced privacy and storage convenience.

Location and accessibility: Proximity to essential services such as grocery stores, pharmacies, and healthcare facilities plays a critical role in their decision-making process.

Common challenges

Despite the increasing participation of women in real estate investments, navigating the homebuying process continues to pose challenges.

Many women lack familiarity with legal and financial procedures, including property documentation, home loan approvals, and legal due diligence.

Identifying trustworthy legal advisors and gaining financial awareness are areas where further education and literacy programmes can play a pivotal role.

Government support

Industry experts have long been advocating for policy interventions to support women homebuyers, particularly a 1% reduction in stamp duty and registration charges. Such measures would not only make home ownership more accessible for women but also encourage greater participation in real estate investments.

However, these recommendations are yet to be implemented in certain states. If introduced, they could serve as a catalyst for bridging the gender gap in property ownership and fostering financial independence among women.

The increasing presence of women in the real estate market reflects a progressive shift towards financial empowerment.

Favourable lending policies, stable returns, and the security of home ownership make real estate an attractive investment avenue for women. Addressing the challenges of financial and legal literacy, coupled with supportive government policies, could further accelerate this positive trend.

As more women embrace real estate investments, the industry is set to evolve into an inclusive and equitable space, marking a significant milestone in India's property market.

The writer is Managing Director, DRA Homes.

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CREDAI BENGALURU

Cong. brass for maintaining *status quo* on KPCC chief's post, Cabinet composition

The party leadership is learnt to have told the Chief Minister to make no moves until the government completes two-and-a-half years in office

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Congress high command seems to have told Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to maintain *status quo* on both the State Cabinet composition as well as the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) president's post till the government completes two-and-a-half years (30 months) of its five-year tenure.

Holding talks: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah having a meeting with Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge in New Delhi on Friday.

CM told to organise conventions in four revenue divisions to inform the public about benefits provided by the govt. by implementing guarantee schemes

Don't issue statements

Sources in the Congress said after meetings with AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge and Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi in New Delhi on Thursday, AICC general secretaries told the Chief Minister not to make any attempt to reshuffle the State Cabinet and issue statements related to replacement of Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar as KPCC chief. While senior legislators who are ministerial aspirants are demanding a Cabinet reshuffle, loyalists of the Chief Minister have been demanding the replacement of Mr. Shivakumar as the KPCC chief to checkmate his growing influence. The Chief Minister also reportedly informed Mr. Gandhi about the necessity of appointing a new KPCC chief, citing the demand of senior leaders.

No change of CM

Apparently, the AICC also told Mr. Siddaramaiah that there would be no change of Chief Minister at least till the completion of 30 months of the government. Meanwhile, the party's central leaders have told the Chief Minister to organise mega conventions in the four revenue divisions of the State to inform the public about the benefits provided by the government by implementing the guarantee schemes. The Chief Minister has invited Mr. Gandhi to participate in the programme.

Sources said the high command has cleared the names of four candidates to fill the four vacancies in the Legislative Council. Meanwhile, Mr. Shivakumar said, "Our thinking is to nominate those who are working for the party. It should not become an unemployment benefit. I have spoken to the Chief Minister and the high command about this."

The Chief Minister returned to Bengaluru on Friday after competing a three-day tour to the national capital.

AAI urged to bear utility shifting cost for Mysuru airport runaway expansion

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday requested Minister for Civil Aviation Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu to direct the Airports Authority of India (AAI) to plan to bear the estimated cost of ₹101.82 crore required for utility shifting for taking up the Mysuru airport runway expansion/development work at the earliest.

To expedite work: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah called on Minister for Civil Aviation Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu in New Delhi on Friday. Minister for Industries M.B. Patil was also present.

Canal diversion

In a memorandum submitted to Mr. Naidu, the Chief Minister said that in November 2024, Cauvery Irrigation Corporation Ltd. submitted a report for the diverting/shifting of two ditches and seven canals in the airport expansion area, which will cost ₹70 crore. Similarly, Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Ltd. has estimated the cost of re-routing the HT lines and Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation Ltd. has estimated the cost of re-routing the LT lines at ₹31.82 crore, requiring a total grant of ₹101.82 crore for the works.

The State government has released a grant of ₹319.14 crore for the acquisition of 240 acres required for the expansion of the Mysuru airport runway. The land acquisition process was in the final stage, the petition noted.

Noting that the State government has borne the land acquisition cost of ₹319.14 crore for the acquisition of 240 acres required for the runway expansion, the Chief Minister requested AAI to plan the expansion work, bear the cost of ₹101.82 crore required for utility shifting and take up the runway expansion/development work at the earliest.

The State government entered into an agreement with the AAI on December 6, 2005, for the first phase of development of the Mysuru airport. As per the agreement, the government incurred the land cost while the AAI bore all capital expenditure on development, modifications, strengthening, and upgrading the airport.

Governor gives his assent for four Bills

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot has given his assent for four Bills passed during the Budget session of the Karnataka legislature.

The Governor have given his approval for the Karnataka Ministers Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 2025, and the Karnataka Legislature Salaries, Pensions, and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 2025, which is aimed at doubling the salary and allowances of Ministers and legislators of the State.

BNS provisions

The Governor has also given his assent for the Karnataka Village Offices Abolition (Amendment) Bill, 2025, which will substitute the reference of the provisions of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, with the respective provisions in the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, and the Karnataka Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 2025.

Kodagu BJP worker's death: Party demands arrest of two Congress MLAs, probe by CBI

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The suicide of an Opposition BJP worker from Kodagu, Vinay Somaiah, has taken a political turn with the party demanding a CBI probe into the death and seeking the arrest of two Congress MLAs – A.S. Ponnanna and Manthar Gowda – whom they have accused of harassing the deceased as stated in a purported death note being circulated on WhatsApp.

The BJP, which has lined up a series of protests against the Congress government on price rise and other issues, is expected to take a call on Saturday on its course of action with respect to the death.

BJP senior leaders, including Leaders of the Opposition in both the Houses of the State legislature R. Ashok and Chalavadi Narayanaswamy, on Friday visited Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Hospital in Bengaluru where Vinay Somaiah's body was kept. They alleged that the deceased had mentioned in his purported death note that the two MLAs and their close aide Thennira Myna were harassing him. Taking exception to the FIR not mentioning the names of MLAs, they demanded that their names be included. They also demanded suspension of the Kodagu Superintendent of Police.

Seeking action: BJP leaders R. Ashok and Chalavadi Narayanaswamy submitting a memorandum to the police in Bengaluru on Friday.

Mr. Narayanaswamy maintained that Vinay Somaiah, who was also the administrator of a WhatsApp group, had been booked by the police for allowing a post on the toilet in a government hospital lacking cleanliness. He alleged that the police had started harassing him since then. The alleged harassment continued even though Vinay Somaiah obtained bail from the Karnataka High Court in the case. "Even after Vinay left Madikeri and came to his home in Bengaluru, the police continued to harass him," Mr. Ashok alleged. BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra alleged that the instances of harassment and attacks against the BJP workers were increasing after the Congress came to power.

Earlier cases

Mr. Narayanaswamy alleged the police under the Congress regime had not acted fairly in earlier such cases, including that of police sub-inspector Parashuram of Yadgir who had accused MLA Channa Reddy of harassment, contractor Sachin Panchal of Kalaburagi who had accused Minister Priyank Kharge's aide of harassing him, and clerk Rurdranna Yadavanna at the tahsildar's office in Belagavi who had blamed Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar as being responsible for his death.

YuvaSpark founder Akarsh Shroff conferred National Youth Award

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Akarsh Shroff of Bengaluru was conferred the prestigious National Youth Award on Thursday for his "commitment to improving the quality of early childhood education at anganwadi centres in India".

The award was conferred in Delhi by Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Mansukh Mandaviya. A total of 22 youths were honoured.

The award is conferred by the Ministry of Youth Affairs to recognise the efforts of youth working towards national development and social service. The award recognises work in health, research, culture, human rights, tourism, education, sports, innovation, and community service, by people under the age of 30.

Mr. Shroff founded YuvaSpark as a 17-year-old in 2018. The organisation has built technology platforms that have digitised learning at over 600 anganwadi centres.

Govt. to prioritise construction of toilets in villages within the boundaries of eco-sensitive zones

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Department of Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Swachh Bharat Mission (Rural) has ordered the prioritisation of toilet construction in villages falling within the boundaries of eco-sensitive zones.

The department director in an order to the CEOs of all zilla panchayats in the State has called for executing this initiative under the Swachh Bharat Mission.

The order comes in response to wildlife biologist and conservationist Sanjay Gubbi's recent letter to Minister for Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Priyank Kharge, urging him to prioritise villages within the eco-sensitive zones for essential sanitation initiatives.

According to Holematthi Nature Foundation, whose programme head is Dr. Gubbi, human-wildlife conflict continues to be a significant concern, often resulting in injuries or fatalities. It said that one of the lesser-known yet critical causes of such incidents is open defecation, which increases the risk of human encounters with wildlife.

Sanitation initiative: A file photo of a hamlet in the Nagarahole forest. The government's decision is aimed at reducing human-animal conflict.

"Several deaths have been reported across the State due to this issue. When people squat in forested areas, predators such as tigers and leopards may mistake them for prey, leading to fatal attacks. Similarly, unexpected encounters with elephants in forest-fringe villages have also resulted in casualties," it said in a statement.

It further said that in recent years, many protected areas – including national parks, tiger reserves, and wildlife sanctuaries – have been designated as eco-sensitive zones by the government.

"These zones come with specific restrictions, such as limitations on new resort constructions. While these measures are crucial for conservation, they have sometimes led to employment challenges for local communities, and fostering resentment toward wildlife conservation efforts and against eco-sensitive zones," it said. In response, to the department's order, it said that if effectively implemented, this initiative will not only enhance sanitation and hygiene but also play a crucial role in reducing human-wildlife conflict.

Relief for MGNREGA workers in Kalaburagi, Belagavi divisions

The Hindu Bureau
KALABURAGI

30% work concession has been provided with full wages in April and May in view of extreme heat conditions

Considering the extreme heat conditions in Kalaburagi and Belagavi revenue divisions, the government has issued an order offering a 30% work concession under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) for April and May this year.

Office hours

In an order issued on Friday, the government noted that work hours for government offices had been changed to 8 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. for April and May and a workload concession of 30% had been offered on the work taken up under the MGNREGA with full wages. The work concession would apply to 14 districts that fall under the Belagavi and Kalaburagi revenue divisions and come into force with immediate effect.

The order also directed the officers concerned to ensure the availability of clean drinking water, tents, first aid boxes, and other facilities near the MGNREGA worksites.

Referring to the order, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Priyank Kharge said the government move was to protect rural labourers working under the job scheme from peak-time exposure to the sun.

Take precautions

"Labourers who work in open fields during the summer months are advised to take precautions such as wearing loose cotton clothes and consuming buttermilk, coconut water, and green vegetables instead of spicy food, tea, coffee, and junk food. They should drink enough clean water. The officers concerned are also directed to provide the workers with clean drinking water, first aid box, tent, and other basic facilities at the MGNREGA worksite," he said in a press note.

KUVEMPU UNIVERSITY
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2. No. of Work : 01 (One) No.
3. Estimated Cost : As per Annexure in NIT.
4. Class of Contractor (Eligible) : As per Annexure in NIT
5. Period of Completion : As per Annexure in NIT
6. Other details:

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding From	To	Last Date & Time of Seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/O C.C.E., R.W.Circle, Keonjhar Technical Bid	Financial Bid
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Chief Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Keonjhar	NCB-44 / RWCKJR / 2024-25	Dt.07.04.25 at 11:00 A.M.	Dt.21.04.25 up to 5:00 P.M.	Dt.19.04.25 up to 5:00 P.M.	Dt.22.04.25 at 11:00 A.M.	Will be intimated later

● Further details can be seen from the website www.tendersorissa.gov.in
Chief Construction Engineer, R.W.Circle, Keonjhar.
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Chennai - 600 034.
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Printing and supply of ID cards to members of Self Help Groups (Managing Director, TNCDW Lr. No.131/B3/2025 Dated 04.04.2025)
1. For details : Visit : www.tntenders.gov.in & www.tncdw.org
2. e-Bids are invited by the Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women for printing and supply of ID cards to members of Self Help Groups.
3. The bid documents can be downloaded at free of cost in www.tntenders.gov.in and www.tncdw.org from 07.04.2025.
4. Date and time for downloading of Bid document, submission and opening
(i) Last Date and time for downloading and Online submission of Bid Documents - 06.05.2025 upto 3.30 pm.
(ii) Date and Time of online opening of Bid documents - 06.05.2025, 4.30 pm onwards.
Managing Director,
TNCDW, Chennai - 600 034.
DIPR/ 1342 /TENDER/2025

ED searches premises of *Empuraan* movie co-producer Gopalan

The Central agency questions Kerala businessman in connection with foreign exchange violation case; searches held both in Kerala and T.N.

The Hindu Bureau
KOZHIKODE

On duty: Officials from the Kochi office of ED inspecting the corporate office of Gokulam group in Kozhikode on Friday. K. RAGESH

Officers from the Kochi unit of the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) questioned Kerala businessman and film producer Gokulam Gopalan at his corporate office in Kozhikode city on Friday. He is one of the producers of the Malayalam film *L2: Empuraan* starring Mohanlal.

Sources said he appeared before the team around 11.30 a.m as part of the continuing investigation in an alleged foreign exchange violation case.

Ahead of the interrogation, the ED squad carried out extensive searches at his two houses in Vadakara, near Kozhikode, and Neelankarai, near Chennai. Financial institutions and business offices under the Gokulam Group in Kodambakkam were also covered in the inspections. Searches were conducted at five places in total, including two places in Chennai.

The searches were conducted in connection with a case registered under the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) against Mr. Gopalan and his company Sree Gokulam Chit and Finance Company Limited.

L2: Empuraan recently underwent 24 "voluntary cuts", following sustained right-wing backlash after its release on March 27.

Unrelated to recent row

Sources said the ongoing inspections were not related to the recent controversies associated with the newly released *Empuraan*. There were also similar inspections in the past on complaints related to suspected foreign exchange violations, they said.

Sources said the case relates to violations in certain transactions worth around ₹1,000 crore with NRIs, besides other unauthorised transactions. The ED was also in the process of verifying the alleged cheating and forgery cases registered against Sree Gokulam Chit and Finance Company Limited under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 in a separate case, said the sources.

A few documents related to financial transactions were recovered for further examinations. The ED officials who quizzed Mr. Gopalan asked him to appear before them at their Chennai office at the earliest. The sources said the interrogation would continue to get more clarifications from him on some of the documents recovered.

Sources from Gokulam Group of companies said Mr. Gopalan would fully cooperate with the investigation to clarify the doubts related to the recovered document. They also hinted that he would appear before the investigation team in Chennai on Saturday.

(*With inputs from PTI*)

Pinarayi's daughter to be summoned in CMRL pay-off case

K.S. Sudhi
KOCHI

T. Veena

T. Veena, daughter of Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, and the other accused in the Cochin Minerals and Rutile Limited (CMRL) pay-off case will be summoned to a trial court in Ernakulam soon.

V.P.M. Suresh Babu, Additional District and Sessions Judge 7, Ernakulam, will issue summons to the accused.

The final complaint of the Serious Fraud Investigation Organisation (SFIO), which was filed before the Ernakulam Principal Sessions Court on Thursday, was handed over to the Additional District and Sessions Judge 7, Ernakulam, which is the designated special court to try the cases booked by the SFIO, on Friday for further action. The special court will take cognizance of the final complaint and issue summons to the accused, sources said.

Final complaint

The accused will have to personally appear before the special court and seek bail. Arrests are unlikely to be made in the case as the investigation agency has completed its probe and filed the final complaint, according to legal sources.

The final complaint was filed by Mahendhar Aithe, senior prosecutor of the SFIO regional office, Hyderabad.

The SFIO has invoked Section 447 of the Companies Act against Ms. Veena and Sasidharan Kartha, managing director of the CMRL, in the final complaint.

The agency alleged that the CMRL had made fraudulent payments of ₹2.7 crore benefiting Ms. Veena and her now-defunct firm Exalogic Solutions Private Limited.

The Act prescribes imprisonment from six months to 10 years and a fine, which shall not be less than the amount involved in the fraud. The fine can go up to three times the amount involved in the fraud, according to the provisions of the Act.

The SFIO has also alleged that the CMRL made fraudulent commission payments to the tune of ₹13 crore benefiting Anil Ananda Panicker, a director of the CMRL.

It also held Mr. Kartha, his son and Joint Managing Director of the company Saran S. Kartha, and four senior functionaries of the firm were responsible for the fraudulent expenses of ₹182 crore under the guise of sludge handling charges and transportation costs.

CPI(M) backs Kerala CM in case against his daughter

The Hindu Bureau
MADURAI

A day after the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) filed its final complaint against T. Veena, daughter of Kerala Chief Minister and CPI(M) Polit Bureau member Pinarayi Vijayan, in the Cochin Minerals and Rutile Ltd (CMRL) pay-off case, the CPI(M) rallied behind Mr. Vijayan in solidarity. But there appeared to be serious differences of opinion in the top leadership of the party in their approach to the case.

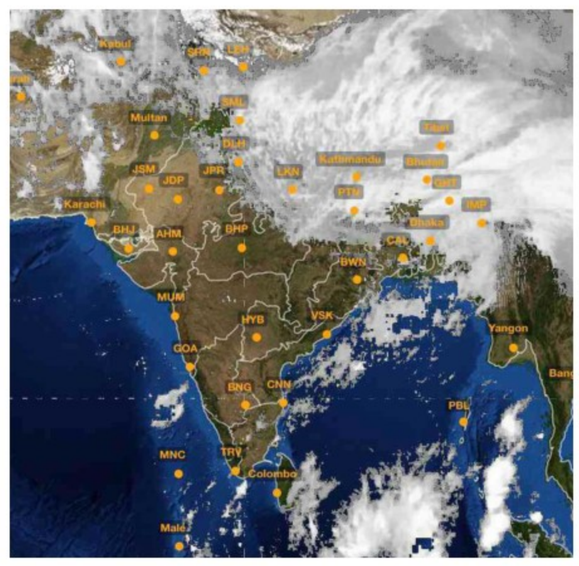
Polit Bureau coordinator Prakash Karat said the case would be fought politically and legally. "If they [BJP] think they can target the Chief Minister by doing such things against his family members, we are prepared to face it and I'm sure it will be fought politically and legally," he said.

Several leaders from Kerala claimed the case was politically motivated while some leaders, such as Polit Bureau member M.A. Baby, alleged a conspiracy behind it.

But Polit Bureau member Mohammed Salim chose to insist that the CPI (M) was not party to the case, and it was up to the individuals indicted in the case to fight it legally. "The case has nothing to do with the party," he maintained. Mr. Salim accused the Centre of using its agencies for political purposes when he was asked about the ED's searches at the offices of the co-producer of the film *Empuraan*.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Saturday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Mahe. Heat wave conditions likely at isolated places over Saurashtra & Kutch, west Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi and west Uttar Pradesh

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	34.2	25.8	Kozhikode	15	34.6	24.5
Ahmedabad	—	41.3	23.6	Kurnool	19	34.9	22.6
Aizawl	—	33.5	19.7	Lucknow	—	38.6	19.6
Allahabad	—	38.8	20.5	Madurai	—	34.6	25.6
Bengaluru	4	32.9	21.9	Mangaluru	—	34.1	23.7
Bhopal	—	37.6	18.8	Mumbai	—	33.7	27.5
Bhubaneswar	—	36.9	25.0	Mysuru	—	35.0	22.0
Chandigarh	—	35.8	16.9	New Delhi	—	38.4	18.8
Chennai	—	33.8	27.0	Patna	—	37.6	24.2
Coimbatore	4	36.0	23.5	Port Blair	48	25.6	23.1
Dehradun	—	34.6	15.5	Puducherry	—	33.7	25.3
Gangtok	—	21.7	14.3	Pune	21.3	35.5	17.6
Goa	—	35.0	27.0	Raipur	3	35.6	24.1
Guwahati	—	34.0	18.8	Ranchi	0.5	32.8	21.1
Hubballi	—	35.0	22.0	Shillong	—	26.0	15.1
Hyderabad	59	33.0	21.1	Shimla	—	25.4	15.0
Imphal	—	29.3	20.5	Srinagar	—	22.4	5.6
Jaipur	—	38.6	22.4	Thiruvananthapuram	—	34.3	25.0
Kochi	26	33.2	23.0	Tiruchi	11	36.1	25.6
Kohima	—	24.2	15.8	Vijayawada	19	34.4	24.2
Kolkata	—	34.8	26.8	Visakhapatnam	—	35.8	27.6

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.61	.41	.11	198	142	
Bengaluru	9	.16	.29	39	137	
Chennai	9	.15	.57	35	53	
Delhi	.32	142	.69	220	304	
Hyderabad	.11	.16	.38	50	87	
Kolkata	.10	.34	.32	85	84	
Lucknow	.10	.38	.22	202	232	
Mumbai	.37	4	5	51	117	
Pune	.64	.16	113	326	—	
Visakhapatnam	8	.44	.28	43	66	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Byrnihat, Assam recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 296 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Madikeri, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 14

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

JHARKHAND BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED
(CIN: U40108JH2013SGC001702)
(Civil Engineering Department)
Regd. Office: Engineering Building, H.E.C, Dhurwa, Ranchi -834004

e- TENDER NOTICE

e-Tenders in two parts Part-I (Technical and Commercial) and Part-II (price part) are invited from the reputed tenderers having good experience of following similar nature of Civil works and having sound financial status:

SL. No.	NIT No.	Name of the works	Estimated cost in Rs./-	Earnest money to be deposited in Rs./-	Cost of BOQ (Non-Refundable) in Rs./-	Time of completion of work.
1	01 /PR/JBVNL /25-26	Construction of Transformer Repairing Workshop (TRW) shed, Boundary Wall, Guard Room, Common Toilet, PCC Approach Path, Drain, Store cum Scrap Room, Area Development, Sinking of 200/165 mm dia deep bore well and allied Civil works for proposed TRW at Kathara under Electric Supply Division, Tenughat.	1,77,49,900=00	3,55,000=00	10000.00 + 18% Extra GST =11800.00	365 days
	Availability of tender documents on website			From 07.04.25 at 02.00 PM to 30.04.25to 3.00 PM		
	Last date and time for uploading of e-tender			Up to 30.04.2025 up to 3.00 PM		
	Date and time for opening of Tender Part -I (Technical and Commercial)			At 3.30 PM on 02.05.2025		
	Date and time for opening of Tender Part -II (Price Part)			Will be Communicated later on		
	Tendering Officer and address for communication			General Manager (CIVIL), JBVNL, Engineering Building, H.E.C., Dhurwa, Ranchi – 834 004		

Any query towards this tender can also be had from the office of the undersigned during office hours or may contact on Mob No. 9431722552

1. e-Tender documents and BOQ including terms & conditions, specification etc. can be downloaded and submitted online on website https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in. Any details required in this regard can also be had from the office of the undersigned during office hours. NIC helpline no. 0651-2400178.
2. Bidder shall deposit online tender fee as mentioned above for Cost of BOQ and EMD as per rules of e-tendering portal (**jharkhandtenders.gov.in**).
3. The tenders will be received through electronic tendering mode only.

स्वहित एवं राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचावें। कृपया अपनी शिकायतों को 18003456570(कॉल सेन्टर) पर दर्ज करायें।

PR 349683 (Jharkhand Bijlee Vitran Nigam Ltd) 25-26 (D)

Sd/-
General Manager (Civil)

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client is negotiating for the purchase of the Schedule property from Smt. Bhadramma. N.S. W/o. Sri. Veeranna C.V. Residing at No.47, Veerabhadra Nilaya, 1st Main Road, 3rd Cross, Anubhavanagara, Mudalapalya, Bengaluru-560072, claiming to be the owner of the schedule property agreed to sell the same in favour of my client. Therefore any person/s, Financial Institutions, Co-parcener of the owner, Legal representatives or any other person interested in the schedule property or opposing the sale of the schedule property to my client in any manner whatsoever shall submit written objections to the undersigned along with the supporting documents within 7 (Seven) days from the date of this publication. Any objections received subsequently shall not be considered and my client would proceed to complete the sale transaction.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the residential vacant site property bearing No. **317**, **BBMP E-PID No.6544352849** (BBMP khatha No. **2867**), situated at **Block No. V**, Lingadheeranahalli Village, within the limits of BBMP, Yashwanthapura Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, Layout formed in Survey No.36 by The Karnataka Government Class 'D' Employees House Building Co-operative Society Limited, BBMP Ward No.40, Bengaluru-560072, measuring **East to West 9.14 mts (30 feet)** and **North to South 15.24 mts (50 feet)** in all **139.35 Square meters (1500 Sq.ft),** with all rights appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded on the: East by : Site No.318, West by : Site No.316, North by : 30 Feet Road and South by : Site No.326.

Office Address:
Chandrahasa. M.R., Advocate
No. 10, Ground Floor, 'ASVNV CENTENARY BHAVAN', K G Road, Gandhinagar, Bangalore-560009. Mobile: **9741485539**

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No: 05-XEN-CWS-MYSS-PAINTING-2025-26 Dated: 28.03.2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Item of work	Approx. Value
Painting of Steel Structure of CWS / AP in Sr. Sectional Engineer / BR / O / MYSS Section due for the year 2025-26 at Mysuru Workshop.	Rs. 63,51,552/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 29.04.2025**

For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in

Asst. Executive Engineer/Central Workshop/ Mysuru South

PUB/04/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2025-26

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public that our client Mr. Gopal Byre Gowda residing at Garudapalya, Kolar-563133 states that he had lost the original title documents morefully described below on pertaining to the property bearing Survey No.19 measuring 5 Acres 03 Guntas, Survey No. 19 measuring 06 Acres 03 Guntas, Survey No. 93 measuring 3 Acres 00 Guntas , Survey No.93 measuring 2 Acres 00 Guntas, Survey No. 95 measuring 2 Acres 28 Guntas and Survey No.99 measuring 1 Acres 04 Guntas. All situated at Balanagenahalli Village, Vemagal Hobli, Kolar Taluk, Kolar District. Further, a complaint regarding the loss of original title documents has been lodged at the Bangalore City Police Unit on 24.03.2025 vide Lost Report No.1535480/2025. If it is found by any person/s, kindly hand over the same to the below-mentioned address.

Description of the lost original documents

Description of the Documents

1. Sale Deed dated 16.02.1961, registered as Document No. 4489/ 1960-61 of Book-I, Volume No.1040 in Pages 15 to 16 at the office of Sub-registrar, Kolar.
2. Sale Deed dated 12.09.1963, registered as Document No.2012/1963-64 of Book-I, Volume No.1140 in Pages 224 to 225 at the office of Sub-registrar, Kolar.
3. Sale Deed dated 06.10.1995, registered as Document No.1879/1995-96 of Book-I, Volume No.2206 in Pages 236 to 240 at the office of Sub-registrar, Kolar.
4. Sale Deed dated 22.12.1995, registered as Document No. 2821/1995-96 of Book-I, Volume No.2222 in Pages 63 to 67 at the office of Sub-registrar, Kolar.
5. Sale Deed dated 28.04.1995, registered as Document No. 247/1995-96 of Book-I, Volume No.2185 in Pages 200 to 205 at the office of Sub-registrar, Kolar.
6. Sale Deed dated 25.05.1971, registered as Document No. 969/1971-72 of Book-I, Volume No.1417 in Pages 12 to 13 at the office of Sub-registrar, Kolar.

S T Prashantha Kumar, Senior Partner,
Mali Pavan Gowda, G-Head,
Fox Mandal & Associates
Solicitors & Advocates,
FM House, 6/12, Primrose Road,
Bangalore – 560025, Karnataka, India
Phone: +91 80 30554100
Date: 05.04.2025

CHENNAI METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, CIRCLE-I,
CONSTRUCTION WING, FIRST FLOOR,
KOYAMBEDU, CHENNAI-600 107

e- TENDER NOTICE **Dt. 04.04.2025**

E-tenders are invited from the Government registered and experienced contractors by the Superintending Engineer, Circle-I, Construction Wing, First Floor, 'A' -Block, CMDA, 'E'-Road, Koyambedu, Chennai – 107, under Two cover system for the work of "Development of Marina Heritage Corridor from Marina Light House to Island ground at Chennai".

E-tender Notice No.	01/2025-26 dt. 04.04.2025
Last date & Time of receipt of tender through online	06.05.2025 at 3.00 PM
Downloading the tender document by free of cost	From 07.04.2025 to 06.05.2025 upto 3.00 PM
For further details visit website	**http://tntenders.gov.in**

Superintending Engineer-I,
Circle I, C.W, CMDA, Ch-107.

DIPR/1361/Tender/2025

अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, गुवाहाटी
ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, GUWAHATI
(A statutory body under the aegis of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI)
Changsari, Kamrup, Assam-781101, Website: www.aiimsguwahati.ac.in

Ref No- 2-378/2023-24/AIIMS/GHY/ESTT. /DEPUTATION / Pt-1/4067 Date: 18.03.2025

VACANCY NOTICE FOR PROJECT CELL AND NON-FACULTY POSTS ON DEPUTATION/DIRECT RECRUITMENT BASIS

AIIMS Guwahati invites applications in the pre-scribed proforma for the following posts on deputation/recruitment basis.

A. On Direct Recruitment Basis:

Sl. No.	Name of the post	Group	Pay Scale	No. of Posts
1	Accounts Officer	A	Level-10 as per 7th CPC (RS. 56100-177500)	01

B. On Deputation Basis

Sl. No.	Name of the post	Group	Pay Scale	No. of Posts
1.	Medical Superintendent	A	Level 14 as per7th CPC (Rs.144200- 218200) + NPA	01
2.	Superintending Engineer	A	Level 13 as per 7th CPC (Rs 123100-215900)	01
3.	Executive Engineer (Electrical)	A	Level-11 as per 7th CPC (Rs.67700 - 208700)	01
4.	Nursing Superintendent	A	Level-11 as per 7th CPC (Rs.67700 - 208700)	02
5.	Assistant Administrative Officer	B	Level- 7 as per 7th CPC (Rs. 44900-142400)	01
6.	Assistant Accounts Officer	B	Level-7 as per 7th CPC (Rs. 44900-142400)	02
7.	Assistant Stores Officer	B	Level-7 as per 7th CPC (Rs. 44900-142400)	01
8.	Librarian Grade-I	B	Level-7 as per 7th CPC (Rs. 44900-142400)	01
9.	Private Secretary	B	Level-7 as per 7th CPC (Rs. 44900-142400)	01
10.	Personal Assistant	B	Level-6 as per 7th CPC (Rs. 35400-112400)	01
11.	PA to Principal (S)	B	Level-6 as per 7th CPC (Rs. 35400-112400)	01
12.	Pharmacist Grade-I	B	Level-6 as per 7th CPC (Rs. 35400-112400)	02
13.	Sanitation Officer	B	Level-6 as per 7th CPC (Rs. 35400-112400)	01
14.	Upper Division Clerk	C	Level-4 as per 7th CPC (Rs. 25500-81100)	04

For details of recruitment i.e. application form, eligibility criteria, desirable qualifications/ experience, corrigendum/addendum and etc., will be uploaded only on the official website **www.aiimsguwahati.ac.in** . Candidates are advised to check website regularly for updates. Applications completed in all respect along with CRs, Vigilance clearance, Integrity Certificate etc. should be sent through proper channel to **Asst. Administrative Officer (I/C), All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Guwahati, Changsari, Kamrup, Assam – 781101**. The last date for submission of application through proper channel for posts on deputation basis and online application for Accounts Officers on Direct Recruitment basis will be 30 days from the date of publication of advertisement in Employment News.

Sd/-
Deputy Director (Admin),
AIIMS, Guwahati

ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಸಿವಿಲ್ ವಿಭಾಗ ಸಯ್ಯಾಜಿರಾವ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಮೈನಪಾ/ಕಾ.ಇಂ(ಪೂ&ಪ)/ಸಾ.ಟೆಂ.ಪ್ರ–19/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 28.03.2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್ ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಕ ಸಂ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಒಟ್ಟು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು	ಒಟ್ಟು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಚಾಲ್ತಿಗೆ ಬರುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ
				ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11ರ ನಂತರ	ಸಂಜೆ 5.20 ರ ನಂತರ	ಸಂಜೆ 5.25ರ/ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.00ರ ನಂತರ
	ಸರ್ವೀಸ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ					
1.	ಟೆಂ.ಪ್ರ.ಸಂ:ಕಾ.ಅ(ಪ)/ಟಿ.ಎನ್–74/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ:27.03.2025	02	32.60	27.03.2025	03.04.2025	04.04.2025
			–	02.04.2025	16.04.2025	19.04.2025
2.	ಟೆಂ.ಪ್ರ.ಸಂ:ಮೈನಪಾ.ಉಅ(ಆ)/ವಾವಿ/ಜಿಆರ್/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ:17.03.2025	11	1432.00	03.04.2025	17.04.2025	19.04.2025
	ಗೂಡ್ಸ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ					
3.	ಟೆಂ.ಪ್ರ.ಸಂ:ಮೈನಪಾ.ಉಅ(ಆ)/ವಾವಿ/ಜಿಆರ್/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ:29.03.2025	01	13.43	03.04.2025	09.04.2025	11.04.2025
	ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ					
4.	ಟೆಂ.ಪ್ರ.ಸಂ:ಕಾ.ಅ(ಪ)/ಟಿ.ಎನ್–01/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ:01.04.2025	01	26.75	02.04.2025	16.04.2025	19.04.2025
	EOT					
5.	ಟೆಂ.ಪ್ರ.ಸಂ:ಮೈನಪಾ./ಉಅ(ಆ)/ವಾವಿ/ಜಿಆರ್/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ:29.03.2025	03	–	03.04.2025	09.04.2025	11.04.2025

ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರವನ್ನು ಕಚೇರಿ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಕಾ.ಅ (ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ) ರವರ ಕಚೇರಿಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.

ವಿಶೇಷ ಸೂಚನೆ: ಮುಂದೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಸೂಚನೆ / ಬದಲಾವಣೆ / ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಯಾವುದೇ ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

DIPR-DD-MYS/014/KSMCA-013/2025-26

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ), ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು

American retreat

The U.S. risks ceding its position as a global economic powerhouse

What United States President Donald Trump did to global trade on April 2 in Washington closely mirrors a disruptive precedent set by President Richard Nixon in 1971. On August 15, Nixon stunned the world by announcing the "temporary suspension" of the U.S. dollar's convertibility into gold. This effectively dismantled the Bretton Woods framework that was worked out quite unilaterally in 1944, which led to the setting up of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, and provided an anchor for global currency stability – an avenue to address balance of payments crises, and to finance the reconstruction efforts of former colonial powers. Though announced as a temporary move, it became permanent and upended the global financial system, as nations reckoned with a new era of financial market volatility. Similarly, Mr. Trump's reciprocal tariffs have instantly ushered in global economic uncertainty, the full extent of which will be felt in the months and the years ahead. By unilaterally altering trade relationships, he has disrupted the very system of interconnected global commerce that the U.S. helped build in the post-war era.

The international reaction has been one of shock and concern. The U.S. is the world's largest importer of manufactured goods, accounting for about 13% of global imports in 2023. The new tariffs will reroute supply chains and force countries to diversify their export strategies. In the immediate term, the cost of imports will rise for American consumers, leading to reduced demand. The ripple effects will be global, causing production slowdowns as exporters scramble to find alternative markets. Economies such as China, Japan, India and the European Union are likely to experience a temporary decline in economic growth. Yet, unlike in the Nixon era, the U.S. today holds a diminished position in global trade. In the 1970s, it was the world's dominant trader, with an estimated 13%-15% share of global trade. China's presence was negligible at the time, accounting for less than 1%. Today, China commands the largest share of global trade, at around 14%, while the U.S. has slipped to roughly 10%. The international community also accepted the dollar's supremacy in the 1970s because of America's overwhelming economic and technological dominance. Now, although the dollar remains the preferred reserve currency, the centre of economic gravity has shifted. The world's leading exporters of advanced technologies are now China and other Asian powers, including South Korea, Japan, and Taiwan. Thus, Mr. Trump's turn to protectionism – an attempt to regain American economic dominance – may well hasten the country's retreat from its hegemonic position.

Taken to task

The Supreme Court is right in pushing Speakers to act decisively on defections

The issue of defections in Legislative Assemblies has become a vexed one in public life in recent years. Ruling parties – the Bharatiya Janata Party in particular – have adopted an unabashed approach to augment their legislative support by encouraging defections. A commonly used modus operandi – used egregiously in Manipur in the late 2010s and later in Maharashtra – involves the Speaker, invariably from the ruling party, sitting on disqualification petitions from Opposition parties against legislators who have defected. Some defectors have even been sworn in as Ministers, pending adjudication on their party-switching by the Speaker. Many States have seen the unedifying sight of mass defections to the ruling party just after elections, making a mockery of the democratic exercise. The latest is the situation in Telangana where the petitions filed by the Bharat Rashtra Samiti (BRS) in March-April 2024, to disqualify 10 of its legislators who defected to the Congress, were notified by the Speaker only in January this year. The Supreme Court, hearing a petition by the BRS seeking timely action by the Speaker, has rightly observed that it was not "powerless" if a Speaker chose to remain indecisive. Justice B.R. Gavai's observation that the courts cannot tell a Speaker how to decide, but that they could ask the Speaker to decide within a reasonable period, is a rational one.

A five-judge Constitution Bench, in May 2023, had reposed its faith in the Speaker's "propriety and impartiality" to decide on defections, but "within a reasonable period". Flowing from this judgment, the Court had, in October 2023, fixed a deadline for the Maharashtra Speaker to decide defection pleas from the Opposition after the undue delay by him in hearing them. Yet, the issue is persistent. This is inevitable as Speakers are invariably elected from ruling parties and rarely act in a non-partisan manner, despite the expectation that they will do so. In 2020, the Court had asked Parliament to amend the Constitution to strip Legislative Assembly Speakers of their exclusive power to decide upon whether legislators should be disqualified or not under the Tenth Schedule which frames the anti-defection law. It had also asked for an independent tribunal, instead of the Speaker, to be appointed for the task. No such action has been taken by Parliament since then and the problem of defections going unaddressed by Speakers within a reasonable time frame persists. If the Court forces the hand of the Speaker in Telangana, it might be one more blow for decisive action. But the scourge of defections and how it is dealt with will remain as long as voters do not punish those who indulge in such practices.

A case for the Global South in securing Ukraine peace

Shashi Tharoor

is a fourth-term Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha), Congress party, and is the award-winning author of 26 books, including 'Pax Indica: India and the World of the 21st Century'. As a senior United Nations official, he led the team responsible for peace-keeping operations in the former Yugoslavia

E.D. Mathew

is a former United Nations spokesperson. He has been part of the United Nations peacekeeping missions in Timor-Leste and Liberia

As the devastating war in Ukraine edges toward a fragile ceasefire, recently reinforced by maritime and energy truces brokered in Riyadh, the question of a more enduring peace looms large, along with a related question: who will oversee its implementation?

Peace seems to be in prospect, as both sides appear weary of a long-drawn out attritional conflict. The recent Black Sea deal follows talks initiated by United States President Donald Trump, who has vowed to swiftly end the war that has now entered its fourth year.

While western leaders, notably France's President Emmanuel Macron and Britain's Prime Minister Keir Starmer, have floated the idea of a European-led peacekeeping force, this proposition is rife with challenges and contradictions. Russia has made it clear that no troops from North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) member-countries would be welcome, and most of Europe is already in NATO. A peacekeeping force whose very presence would be seen as a *casus belli* is evidently a non-starter.

It is time for the Global South – a coalition of nations from Africa, Asia, and Latin America – to rise to the occasion and offer to lead a United Nations-backed peacekeeping mission in Ukraine. Doing so would not only ensure credibility and neutrality but also symbolise the emergence of the Global South as an indispensable force in shaping global stability.

The perils of a European peacekeeping force

Europe's enthusiasm for spearheading peacekeeping in Ukraine appears, at first glance, logical – its proximity to the conflict and its strategic stake in the region make it a natural candidate. While promoting a "coalition of the willing", Mr. Starmer has already promised to send British troops as part of any post-war peacekeeping operation. Yet, this logic crumbles under the weight of Russia's vehement opposition. Moscow views a European-led force as a NATO Trojan horse, a thinly veiled ploy to expand the alliance's reach into Ukraine. Such a deployment would not only exacerbate tensions but also risk transforming peacekeepers into catalysts for further conflict. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov declared during a recent visit to Qatar that it would only "further fuel the conflict and stop any attempts to calm it down".

Moreover, European public opinion is far from aligned with the ambitions of its leaders. Polls reveal widespread resistance to deploying troops in what would undoubtedly be a perilous theatre of operations. When Mr. Macron first suggested French troops for such an endeavour earlier this year, opinion polls showed an overwhelming majority of French citizens opposing the idea. Even if political will is mustered, the logistical realities of sustaining such a mission without heavy reliance on U.S. support – which, in the Trump era, may or may not be available – would expose Europe's limitations. In a conflict fraught with delicate balances, the stakes are too high to gamble on an arrangement perceived as partial and provocative.

> The Ukraine war is a chance for the Global South to emerge as a force that is credible and neutral in shaping global stability

The Global South has the credentials

The presence of NATO troops along the front line with Russian forces, even in a peacekeeping capacity, heightens the chances of a broader confrontation, a risk the international community can ill afford. In stark contrast, the Global South offers a compelling alternative. Unlike Europe, nations from Africa, Asia, and Latin America have largely maintained a principled neutrality in the Russia-Ukraine conflict. This impartiality – symbolised by Prime Minister Narendra Modi hugging both Russian President Vladimir Putin in Moscow and Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in Kyiv, two weeks apart – grants them the moral high ground, making them uniquely positioned to maintain the trust of both Kyiv and Moscow. A peacekeeping mission led by the Global South would not only de-escalate tensions but also inject a much-needed sense of fairness into the proceedings.

The Global South's credentials are far from theoretical. The African Union (AU)'s record of peacekeeping, whether in Sudan, Somalia, or the Central African Republic, speaks volumes about its ability to navigate volatile environments. Similarly, BRICS member countries such as Brazil, India, South Africa and Indonesia have demonstrated their diplomatic acumen and operational expertise in UN peacekeeping missions. Even smaller nations such as Chile bring specialised skills, such as demining, which are crucial for Ukraine's reconstruction. Their track record in UN peacekeeping missions strengthens their credibility as potential leaders in Ukraine's stabilisation efforts.

For a Global South-led peacekeeping mission to succeed, several conditions must be met. A robust and well-defined ceasefire agreement is, of course, a prerequisite. Equally critical is the demarcation of a clear front line, a task demanding meticulous negotiations. Financial and logistical support from western nations, particularly the European Union, would bolster the mission's capacity. All of these would be available if the operation was authorised by the United Nations Security Council and enjoyed the approval and co-operation of both parties to the conflict. Crucially, excluding NATO troops entirely would assuage Russian concerns and underscore the mission's neutrality. Finally, as India demonstrated in Liberia, the inclusion of female peacekeepers, whose presence has been shown to foster community trust and address gender-based violence, a persistent issue in conflict zones, would further enhance the initiative's legitimacy.

India, with its storied legacy in UN peacekeeping, is especially well-placed to take a leadership role. Having contributed over 2,90,000 peacekeepers to more than 50 UN missions, India's experience is unparalleled. Currently, more than 5,000 Indian peacekeepers are deployed in nine of the 11 active peace operations. In 2007, India became the first country to deploy an all-women police contingent to a peacekeeping mission, in war-torn Liberia. More than 160 Indian peacekeepers have paid the ultimate price serving under the UN flag so far – the highest number for any troop-contributing country.

It was no accident that then UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali turned to India to lead the UN peace-keeping operation in the former Yugoslavia in 1992. As in that situation, India's neutral stance in the Ukraine conflict and its balanced relationships with Russia, the West, and Ukraine make it a natural choice to spearhead this effort. There is a strong case for India to shed its reticence and step forward with the assertiveness the moment demands.

Meanwhile, China has been far more proactive, positioning itself as a potential peacemaker despite its close ties to Moscow. Beijing has also appointed a seasoned diplomat as its special envoy for Ukraine, whereas India has yet to take comparable steps.

The broader imperative

A peacekeeping mission in Ukraine under the auspices of the United Nations offers more than just a pathway to stability in Eastern Europe. It is an opportunity for the Global South to assert its rightful place at the high table of international diplomacy. For decades, this grouping – still too inchoate to be termed a bloc – has been relegated to the margins of global decision-making, its voice often drowned out by the cacophony of western powers. Taking the lead in Ukraine would signal a shift, a bold declaration that the Global South is not merely a passive observer but an active shaper of the world order.

As we stand at this historic juncture, the choice is clear. The task of securing peace in Ukraine cannot be left to actors whose partiality risks undermining the very truce they are meant to protect. It is time for the Global South to seize the mantle of leadership, offering a vision of peace that is inclusive, credible, and enduring. A peacekeeping mission in Ukraine under the UN. banner would provide the global body with a crucial opportunity to reaffirm its role in maintaining international peace and security. For India, active participation in such an effort would not only cement its standing as a global power but also affirm its growing influence in shaping international diplomacy.

A people still waiting to move out of the margins

Vipin Benny

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International Transgender Day of Visibility, which is observed on March 31, highlights the challenges that transgender individuals face. Despite legal advancements such as the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019, social stigma, economic exclusion and discrimination persist. There are barriers to education, employment and health care. Workplace biases and financial discrimination hinder economic empowerment, while bullying and unsupportive environments restrict education. Health-care systems fail to address transgender-specific needs, worsening marginalisation. True inclusion requires strong policy implementation, anti-discrimination enforcement, and societal change. Governments, businesses and communities must ensure financial inclusion, equal opportunities and support, fostering empowerment beyond mere visibility.

Legal recognition versus ground reality

Weak implementation of the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019, hampers access to welfare schemes. As of December 2023, the National Portal for Transgender Persons received 24,115 identity card applications. However, only 15,800 certificates were issued, with over 3,200 pending beyond the mandated 30-day period. In Delhi, despite a transgender population of approximately 4,200 (2011 Census), only 23 identity cards had been issued by April 2022. The Act's bureaucratic certification process delays recognition by contrasting global standards of self-determination. It also lacks provisions for addressing police harassment, family rejection, and social exclusion.

Economic empowerment remains a challenge in India due to systemic barriers in employment and entrepreneurship. A 2018 National Human Rights Commission of India (NHRC) report found that 92% of transgender individuals were excluded from economic activities, forcing many to engage in sex work. A 2022 study reported a transgender unemployment rate of 48%, far above the national average of 7%-8%.

> Transgender individuals continue to face barriers to acceptance, education, employment and health care

Discrimination starts at hiring, where biases lead to exclusion, and those employed face workplace hostility, a lack of gender-neutral facilities, and resistance from colleagues. While Tata Steel has hired over 100 transgender employees, the industry-wide adoption of such policies is limited. In 2024, the Finance Ministry clarified that LGBTQ+ individuals could open joint bank accounts and nominate partners as beneficiaries, yet broader financial exclusion persists. There need to be workplace inclusion policies, diversity hiring, targeted financial programmes, and government-backed loans to ensure economic empowerment.

Hurdles in education, health-care access

Education is crucial for inclusion and the economic empowerment of transgender individuals in India, but systemic discrimination leads to significant disparities. The 2011 Census reported a transgender literacy rate of 56.1%, when the national average was 74.04%. In Kerala, 58% dropped out due to bullying, harassment, and unsupportive environments. But some States have introduced inclusive policies – Maharashtra has transgender cells in colleges and the University of Kerala has reserved seats and hostel facilities. However, nationwide policies remain weak. Ensuring equal opportunities requires gender-sensitive curricula, inclusive learning spaces, financial aid and vocational training.

Transgender individuals in India face major health-care challenges owing to systemic discrimination, financial barriers, and inadequate medical infrastructure. Despite the National Health Policy (2017) and the Ayushman Bharat, accessibility remains limited. A National Legal Services Authority survey found that 27% were denied health care due to their gender identity. Gender-affirming treatments remain costly (between ₹2 lakh to ₹5 lakh) with limited insurance coverage. While the 'Ayushman Bharat TG Plus' card offers ₹5 lakh annual coverage, implementation gaps persist. The lack of trained health-care professionals results in substandard care, and mental health support is severely inadequate. Solutions include mandatory transgender health-care training; inclusion of gender-affirming treatments in insurance; dedicated transgender health clinics, and expanded mental health services.

Steps to help mainstream

Changing societal perceptions of transgender individuals in India requires genuine inclusion in the media, education, workplaces, and policies. While visibility has increased, portrayals often reinforce stereotypes. Deep-rooted prejudices in families, schools, and workplaces are another factor. Initiatives such as the 'I Am Also Human' campaign by the Humsafar Trust help, but broader efforts are needed. Gender sensitisation in schools, universities, and workplaces is essential. The media must depict transgender individuals in diverse roles, while cultural events such as Tamil Nadu's Koovagam Festival can promote acceptance.

International Transgender Day of Visibility underscores the need for policy reforms, social acceptance, and economic inclusion. Discrimination persists in employment, education, health care, and public spaces. Many face identity documentation issues, financial barriers, and workplace biases. Addressing these issues requires awareness campaigns, inclusive media representations, and gender sensitisation in schools and workplaces. Beyond symbolism, enforcing anti-discrimination laws, inclusive hiring, and supporting transgender entrepreneurs are also essential. True equality demands collective action to dismantle institutional barriers and to ensure dignity, empowerment, and integration.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Attack by tariffs

By launching very high tariffs against nations, U.S. President Donald Trump has sown the seeds of fear in the world of international trade and business. It is not just about major nations alone. The impact will be felt by smaller nations too. International trade depends and can survive only through smooth trade norms. It is now expected that the economies of many nations will take a hit. The world is facing troubled times. The COVID-19 pandemic was a turning point and just when we thought that the world has been limping back to normalcy, we now have the unsettling prospect of tariff hurdles. Political change and wars have also been taking a toll on universal progress and togetherness.

Balasubramaniam Pavani,
Secunderabad

The steep hike in tariffs, especially on the jewellery sector, has been compounded by its adverse tilt on Indian products. The prospects of a prolonged tariff war has driven business to the stable investment havens of the bullion. The price of gold is rising and speculation driven by market and trade uncertainties is adding to the demand, taking it beyond the reach of the retail investor.

Corrections & Clarifications

A sentence in a report, "T.N. moved resolution against delimitation to protect State autonomy: Stalin at CPI(M) meet" ('News' page, April 4, 2025), read: "The fight against the Central government's authoritarianism started way back in 1974, when the then Chief Minister and DMK founder, C.N. Annadurai..." It should have been M. Karunanidhi.

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The pain the Indian jewellery sector faces needs to be alleviated in part by government initiatives. Trump's bizarre diktats should generate enough backlash to force the return to a saner equilibrium.

R. Narayanan,
Navi Mumbai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

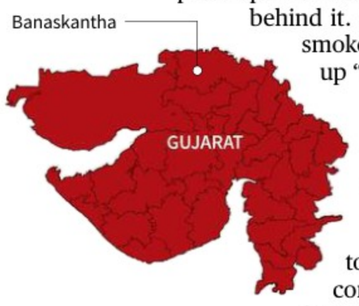
Gujarat police and Deesa nagarpalika workers removing debris at the Deepak firecracker unit, where a blast occurred on April 2, killing 21 people, including eight children. VIJAY SONEJI

Smoke, and a mirror to society

The Banaskantha firecracker factory blaze in Gujarat killed 21 people out of the 24 in the building, among them eight children. While the State and Central governments responded quickly with an announcement of aid and the arrest of the owners, the factory was operating without a licence to manufacture. **Abhinay Lakshman** finds that the families were all migrants from Madhya Pradesh

Chander Singh Nayak, 44, from Sandalpur village in Madhya Pradesh's Dewas district was elated when he got a call from his daughter on Saturday (March 29). He had been working as a labourer in Dholka, in Ahmedabad district, in Gujarat, and had got word that Sunita, 22, and her husband, Lakhan, 24, were moving closer to him. "They said they had got a job working at a firecracker factory in Banaskantha (in north Gujarat)," Chander Singh recalls.

Three days later, Sunita and Lakhan were dead – two among the 21 people killed in an explosion at a firecracker factory just outside Deesa town in Banaskantha district on Tuesday (April 1) morning. The explosion, at about 9 a.m., flattened the premises of the two-storey factory where they lived and worked, throwing debris and body parts up to 300 feet away, into the potato fields behind it. The blast sent up columns of smoke that eyewitnesses say went up "as high as we could see".



Chander Singh had not watched the news that morning. "Sometime at the end of my shift, I heard about an explosion in a firecracker factory, and I went to my contractor. He pulled out his phone and confirmed it. I remember being in a daze," he says, on Wednesday afternoon, after having spent a sleepless night at the Deesa Civil Hospital, where he was told the remains of his loved ones had been brought.

Outside the hospital, Shanti Panwar, Lakhan's aunt, sits on the porch and wonders, "I don't know why they went to work there. I guess the promise of money was too hard to resist – ₹500 to ₹1,000 for every box filled. The contractors in Sandalpur had goaded them on." On this promise, Lakhan had also brought along his siblings – two sisters and a brother, all teenagers, to work at the factory. All of them died in the explosion.

> All I could hear were continuous explosions and screams of people. I rushed into the factory to help, but all I could see was smoke
>
> **BABUBHAI MADABHAI MAJIRANA**
> Deesa resident

Governments and ground reality

As the authorities in Deesa worked on getting the debris removed on Wednesday morning, the police and district officials held press briefings announcing that they had arrested the owner of the factory, Khubchandbhai Renmul Mohanani, and his son, Deepakbhai Khubchandbhai Mohanani.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister each announced a ₹2 lakh ex-gratia to the kin of the deceased and ₹50,000 to the injured. Six people were hurt, including a 3-year-old, and some from outside the factory. Additionally, Gujarat Chief Minister announced an ex-gratia of ₹4 lakh for the kin of the deceased and ₹50,000 for the injured. All 21 killed in the explosion were migrant workers from Madhya Pradesh's Harda and Dewas districts, among them eight children, the youngest of who was 3. There were 24 people in the building, working and living together.

While the remains of 19 victims have been identified, two of the factory workers, one of them 10 years old, were declared "missing", given that too little of their remains had been recovered and DNA testing would be required to identify them.

Banaskantha District Magistrate Mihir Patel told local reporters that the factory – Deepak Fatakda – did not have a licence to manufacture firecrackers. It had a licence to store and sell them, but this had expired towards the end of 2024, Patel had said.

The police declared that they had found aluminium powder and yellow dextrin at the factory, both used for making explosive substances, concluding that these materials had likely caused the explosion to be as massive as it was.

In the first information report (FIR) registered by the police, the local revenue officer had said that the factory had no fire safety equipment. The FIR invoked charges of culpable homicide and endangering lives and personal safety, of the Bharatiya Nyaya Samhita, along with sections of the Explosives Act, 1884, and Explosive Substances Act, 1908.

But Patel told reporters that the local police had conducted a spot check at the factory just 15 days ago and not found any materials indicating that crackers were being manufactured. "After their licence had expired, a renewal application was filed with the SDM (sub-divisional magistrate) office. It was for this that the police had gone to check the place," he had said. The police had given a report against renewal, but the DM says this wasn't because manufacturing materials were present there.

The police says they are investigating the source of the chemicals at the factory. More than 24 hours after the explosion, the site of the factory has bundles of firecracker threads smouldering, the smell of gunpowder in the air, and small spherical *sutli* bombs strewn across the debris. Civic authorities are at work with earthmovers and investigators take stock of whatever is left of the factory located in a row of warehouses.

According to latest available data on accidental deaths compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau for 2022, India had seen 60 incidents of fires at factories where combustible materials like crackers and matchboxes are made, leading to 66 deaths and 32 injured people. The highest number of these incidents were recorded in States like Tamil Nadu (18), Bihar (9), Jharkhand (9), Uttar Pradesh (9), and Rajasthan (9).

First responders

The morning of April 2 was like any other weekday at the Majirana household in the Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation area outside of Deesa railway station. Babubhai Madabhai Majirana, 32, had started the day getting his children ready for school as his wife and mother prepared to tend to the farmland they have been working at all their lives.

Across the road from Majirana's home, inside the Deepak Fatakda factory, Rajesh Nayak, 22, was getting ready for the day's work. The work had been familiar to him. Just ahead of Holi this year, Rajesh had worked at the same factory for 17 days, allegedly making firecrackers.

"The children were still asleep on the upper floor. We had just finished breakfast and had started work on making the *sutli* bombs. Around 8:45, I stepped out of the factory with my 3-year-old sister to fill up some drinking water. I turned my back and felt the impact: a deafening sound and then ringing in my ears, I was thrown to the ground," says Rajesh, who survived with his sister. "I sprang up, looked around for my sister, and rushed out. We were then brought to the civil hospital in Deesa," Rajesh says.

Majirana was in Deesa town dropping his youngest daughter off at school when he heard the explosion. "I saw smoke rising and thought it must have been an electrical pole that caught fire, so I rushed back home. As I got closer, I realised what had happened. We knew it was a firecracker godown, but did not know what work was going on there," Majirana said. His mother, Moriben, was at home when the explosion occurred. "I had never seen something so terrible. The smoke went up so high," she says.

"All I could hear were continuous explosions and screams of people. I rushed into the factory to help, but all I could see was smoke," says Majirana, one of the first people at the scene. "Just as the smoke cleared, I saw it - corpses everywhere, and body parts. It was horrific."

He says he began clearing out whatever he could. "I brought out about 11 bodies from inside the factory. The other farm labourers in the area also helped. We put the remains on a tractor, from where the ambulances took them away one by one," he says.

As the hospital authorities were making sense of the remains that were arriving throughout Tuesday, confusion and chaos was brewing, as the family members started arriving there from Madhya Pradesh.

> I reached the hospital around midnight. We did not know where the remains were. We did not even know for sure that our sons and daughters had died because we had not seen their bodies
>
> **CHANDER SINGH NAYAK**
> Labourer and father of a woman who died

Confusion around bodies

"I reached the hospital around midnight," Chander Singh says, adding that he and other relatives were asked to wait in the hospital lobby all night. "We did not know where the remains were. We did not even know for sure that our sons and daughters had died because we had not seen their bodies," he says. "I don't know why no one would talk to us or give us any details. Some police officials kept asking us to wait." He says they drank some water, had some sugarcane juice, and waited. On Wednesday morning, they were escorted by the police into a hospital room.

Dulichand Kamal, Lakhan's brother, had arrived in Deesa by then. "As soon as we entered the room, I saw police officials bolting the door from the inside. One of them then produced a list of people who they said had died in the explosion, asking us to sign the papers. We refused as we were yet to see the bodies."

By the afternoon, Chander Singh was informed that the remains of his loved ones were being taken back to their hometown in Madhya Pradesh. "The police officials told me I could ride with the bodies in the ambulances, but I kept insisting they wait, because more of our family members were on their way. They took them away anyway."

The frustration of the family members built up and some of them sat in protest in front of the hospital, demanding that the remains of their loved ones be handed over to them. Opposition politicians, including Congress MLA Jignesh Mevani joined the protest and alleged that the Bharatiya Janata Party-led administrations in Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat were trying to "hide the bodies" to purportedly shield the owners of the factory. The family members also wrote petitions to the Gujarat Chief Minister, alleging they were not allowed to identify the remains of their loved ones. As the day went by, the dejected family members eventually left Deesa for their hometowns in Madhya Pradesh where the bodies had arrived by Wednesday night.

Investigations begin

The Gujarat investigators, who had by this time begun visiting the spot of the incident, began piecing the sequence of events together. As investigators went about their work, the village was brimming with questions: Why was the factory manufacturing when it only had a licence for storage and trading? Why did the authorities not seal the factory when the police visited? What triggered the explosion?

Many, like veteran journalist Pankaj Soneji, question why the authorities initially gave journalists another reason for the explosion. "At first, the authorities claimed that it must have been a boiler explosion. But there was no boiler at the place. Now, they are saying it could have been chemicals."

Tapan Jaiswal, editor of the daily BK News, a local Gujarati language broadsheet, says, "I have been reporting in north Gujarat for decades now and I know that this factory owner had monopolised the industry in the area. How could the district authorities not have known?"

He says it was the initial reportage that forced the Gujarat government to set up a Special Investigation Team with officers from Gandhinagar to probe the incident. "If this factory had been running in this area for so long, it would not be possible for the local police to investigate it fairly."

Gujarat MLA Jignesh Mevani with families of victims of the firecracker blast, at Deesa Civil Hospital on Wednesday April 2. VIJAY SONEJI

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From Page One

China hits back with 34% tariff on all U.S. goods

The Chinese also government said it had added 27 firms to lists of companies subject to trade sanctions or export controls. Among them, 16 are subject to a ban on the export of "dual-use" goods. High Point Aerotechnologies, a defence tech firm, and Universal Logistics Holding, a publicly traded transportation and logistics company, were among those listed.

Beijing also announced it filed a lawsuit with the World Trade Organization over the tariffs. "The United States' imposition of so-called 'reciprocal tariffs' seriously violates WTO rules, seriously damages the legitimate rights and interests of WTO members, and seriously undermines the rules-based multilateral trading system and international economic and trade order," the Commerce Ministry said.

"It is a typical unilateral bullying practice that endangers the stability of the global economic and trade order. China firmly opposes this," it said.

RS clears new Waqf Bill after 14 hours of debate

Union Minister for Minority Affairs Kiren Rijiju began his concluding remarks at 12:55 p.m. He reiterated that the government had heard all opinions, which was reflected in the difference between the original Bill and the one cleared by Parliament.

He asserted the Opposition's overwhelming objection to the inclusion of non-Muslim members in Waqf Board and Central Waqf Council was unfounded and baseless.

He also dismissed the Opposition's comparison with other religious endowment boards where there was no provision of including members from other religions. "The Waqf Boards are statutory bodies and not religious bodies like the Hindu endowment boards. A statutory body should be secular," he said. He also clarified again that non-Muslims members in these administrative bodies cannot dictate the decision.

"I have said repeatedly that in the Central Waqf Council of 22 members there can only be four non-Muslim members...," he said.

Earlier in the day, opening the attack, Congress MP Syed Naseer Hussain called it a "targeted legislation against the Muslim community". He said the BJP brought the legislation in 2024 in order to strengthen its vote bank, as it was only able to win 240 seats in the Lok Sabha polls. "They have brought this Act just for communal polarisation. Everybody knows who benefits when communal polarisation takes place," he said.

Mr. Hussain, pointing at the inclusion of non-Muslims in the Waqf Board as per the proposed law, asked, "Will you allow me to be part of a Hindu temple trust?" On the Waqf By User clause, Mr. Hussain asked how would temples, churches or even gurudwaras that have been around for centuries bring the proof that was being demanded from Waqf properties.

Leader of the House in the Rajya Sabha and Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda said other Muslim countries had brought in reforms far before India did. Congress MP Abhishek Manu Singhvi also pointed out Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister and Telugu Desam Party president Chandrababu Naidu's objection to the inclusion of non-Hindus in the Tirupati Board. "If a non-Hindu cannot be part of Tirupati Board, then how can non-Muslims be included in Waqf Board?" he asked.

RJD MP Manoj K. Jha, Shiv Sena (UBT)'s Sanjay Raut, Samajwadi Party's Javed Ali Khan, Congress' Imran Pratapgarhi and Aam Aadmi Party's Sanjay Singh also spoke opposing the Bill.

Modi, Yunus discuss minorities, border row

Mr. Modi expressed India's support for a "democratic, stable, peaceful, progressive and inclusive Bangladesh", and "urged that rhetoric that vitiates the environment is best avoided", according to a statement on the meeting issued by the Ministry of External Affairs.

During talks with Gen. Min Aung Hlaing, the Prime Minister "underlined the importance of early restoration of the democratic process in Myanmar, including through credible and inclusive elections", the MEA said. The General thanked India for its assistance with ongoing relief efforts after devastating earthquakes hit Mandalay and other parts of the country last week.

Mr. Modi said in a social media post that his meeting with Mr. Oli had been "productive". The two leaders discussed the "India-Nepal friendship, especially in sectors like energy, connectivity, culture and digital technology", he said.

New Delhi and Dhaka gave no indication of whether Mr. Yunus had received an invitation from Mr. Modi.

Briefing the media after the meetings, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said that the Prime Minister had expressed concern over the "safety and security of minorities, including Hindus" who were targeted amidst protests in Bangladesh in August 2024.

Mr. Yunus's spokesperson Shafiqul Alam said that Mr. Yunus had spoken about alleged human rights violations carried out by the Hasina government. He also asked New Delhi to respond to Dhaka's request that Ms. Hasina be extradited to stand trial in Bangladesh, and to restrain her from making "false and inflammatory accusations".

Manipur crisis: Kuki-Zo, Meitei civil society groups to meet in Delhi today

Union Home Minister Amit Shah says both the communities should understand that dialogue is the only way forward and the Centre is not in favour of continuing President's Rule; previous attempt at discussion on October 15 last year had failed

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

For the first time since ethnic violence erupted in Manipur in May 2023, civil society groups from Kuki-Zo and Meitei communities are set to hold a dialogue on Saturday at a meeting organised by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) in Delhi.

Representatives of the Kuki-Zo Council, the Zomi Council, the Federation of Civil Societies (FOCS) and the All Manipur United Clubs Organisation (AMUCO) will meet in the presence of A.K Mishra, Adviser, Northeast (MHA).

A meeting of Kuki-Zo, Meitei and the Naga MLAs organised by the MHA on October 15 last year did not bear any result as the legislators from the warring communities refused to sit in the same room.

Early on Friday, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said both the communities in Manipur should understand that dialogue was the only way forward and the Union government was not in favour of continuing President's Rule in the State. Asserting that it was a Manipur High Court order that triggered the violence in the State in May 2023, the Minister said the interpretation of the order led to insecurities among the tribal community about losing reservation status and it became a "tribals versus non-tribal" issue.

Tough task: Home Minister Amit Shah says when ethnic violence spreads, to control it within 15 days is difficult. PTI

Slams Opposition

"It is not a religious conflict, nor terrorism or a law and order failure. Of the 260 people killed in the ethnic violence so far, 70% killings took place in the first 15 days. When ethnic violence spreads, to control it within 15 days is difficult. It is not the first time such violence has been reported in the State. Such incidents in the past have taken years to subside but the BJP never politicised the incidents. They [Opposition] are rubbing salt on the wounds of Manipur by politicising the issue," Mr. Shah said.

The Home Minister said that so far 13 meetings had taken place with the communities and soon the final meeting involving both the communities would be held in Delhi.

Around 2.40 a.m. on Friday, Mr. Shah moved the statutory resolution in the Rajya Sabha for the approval of the imposition of President's Rule in Manipur. It was adopted by the Upper House.

The Minister said President's Rule was imposed due to a political vacuum after the resignation of Chief Minister N. Biren Singh on February 9 and not due to the no confidence motion being planned by the Congress in the State Assembly as was being claimed.

Ten Opposition members spoke on the statutory resolution in the Upper House, with many questioning why Prime Minister Narendra Modi had not visited the State yet.

Leader of the Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge demanded a White Paper on Manipur.

Trinamool Congress' Derek O'Brien said that in the last 22 months the Prime Minister had travelled around 3,80,000 km but did not have the time to visit the State.

A.A. Rahim of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) asked, "Where is our Prime Minister? He has not visited Manipur. Manipur is a continuation of Gujarat. It was a pre-planned and calculated violence. Churches blown using gas cylinders. Government needs to share data regarding attack on Christians."

Rijiju defends House debate on Manipur past midnight

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju defended the decision to hold a debate on Proclamation of Presidential Rule in Manipur past midnight in both Houses of Parliament.

"Rules dictate that the Presidential rule has to be approved by the Parliament within two-months of the proclamation. So, it was necessary to clear it in the ongoing Parliament session. We had consulted the Opposition parties, who insisted that it should not be taken up on a weekend. We had also considered holding the House on Saturday to make up for the holiday for Holi, but there was no consensus on this," Mr. Rijiju said on Friday. In the Lok Sabha, the discussion began at 2 a.m. on Thursday, and in Rajya Sabha, at 2.30 a.m. on Friday. In the Rajya Sabha, Leader of the Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge's suggestion to take up the discussion at 11 a.m. on Friday was rejected.

CPI(M) conference adopts resolution to declare Israel an 'apartheid State'

B. Kolappan
MADURAI

The resolution urged the Centre to stop supporting Israel and revert to the policy of backing Palestine

Demanding an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, the 24th congress of the CPI(M) on Friday said Israel should be declared an "apartheid State" and dealt with accordingly.

A resolution adopted in the congress in Madurai said the BJP-led government at the Centre should stop supporting Israel and revert to the established Indian policy of "backing Palestine".

All the delegates attending the congress raised slogans in support of Palestine, wearing kafiya, the traditional scarf of Palestine people.

"Lasting peace in the region is possible only by the establishment of a Palestinian State, with East Jerusalem as its capital and with pre-1967 borders," said the resolution. It called upon Indians to stand firmly with them in their just struggle for their homeland.

Alleging that Israel had encouraged Zionist settlers to occupy Palestinian land and establish Jewish settlements, the resolution said Israel was slowly annexing Palestinian territory in the West Bank. "All these acts are intended to drive away Palestinians from their homeland and completely annex Palestine as part of realising its agenda of establishing a greater Israel," the resolution said.

The party said the United States and other imperialist countries in Western Europe were actively supporting Israel by arming and standing by it in international forums. "U.S. President Donald Trump's announcement of his condemnable plans for converting Gaza into a tourist paradise by pushing out all Palestinians suits Israel's interests," the resolution added.

'RSS-Zionists bond'

It said the BJP government had watered down the long-held official position of India on Palestine.

"In order to defend its position, the BJP, along with the sangh parivar is projecting the Israeli attack on Gaza as a religious war. The RSS shares close ideological bonds with the Zionists in identifying nationality with religion and their hatred towards Muslims," it alleged.

Party not able to implement steps suggested for course correction: CPI(M) report

S. Anandan
MADURAI

B.V. Raghavulu

The political organisational report of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) [CPI(M)] has made a clean breast of the fact that it has not been able to implement the steps for course correction suggested in the past to rebuild itself in States where it has ceded ground, nor has it succeeded in effectively countering the rise of communalism.

The report, presented by Polit Bureau member B.V. Raghavulu at the 24th party congress here on Friday, portrayed a grim picture of the party organisation in West Bengal, Tripura, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Telangana and Maharashtra. Except for Kerala, factionalism marred the progress of the party in most States, including Tamil Nadu. The organisational work remained largely routine without being imaginative, unguided by contemporary experiences.

While there were three major surveys presented by the party back in 2016 on the agricultural sector, industrial sector and on urbanisation, the recommendations made in their aftermath remained unimplemented. A senior leader said the organisational report placed emphasis on continued education of cadre and constantly engaging with people by intervening in issues. In Kerala, the party organisation failed to correctly read the growth of the BJP's influence among sections of Hindus and Christians.

Earlier in the day, replying to the discussions on the political-tactical line, Polit Bureau coordinator Prakash Karat said State-specific alliances on the lines of the Left Democratic Front in Kerala could be made. The Congress would not be a part of such alliance since its economic policies were not different from that of the BJP. But there could be electoral understanding with the Congress as part of the INDIA bloc wherever possible.

The party is set to amend its constitution to raise membership fee to ₹10 from the present ₹5.

Delhi High Court questions Wikipedia's neutrality on ANI page

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court has raised concerns over the neutrality of Wikipedia content, particularly regarding edits on the Asian News International (ANI) page that labelled the agency a "propaganda tool for the incumbent government".

Justice Subramonium Prasad, in an order passed on April 2, ordered removal of all false, misleading and defamatory content against ANI available on Wikipedia.

Wikimedia had argued before the court that it is an intermediary under the Information Technology Act, 2000 and therefore, has no role with respect to the statements made by three individuals who edited ANI's page on its platform.

The court, however, said Wikimedia Foundation "cannot completely wash its hands of the contents of the article on the ground that it is only an intermediary and cannot be held responsible for the statement that is published on its platform".

"Defendant No.1 (Wikimedia) professes itself to be an encyclopedia and people at large have a tendency to accept the statements made on the web pages of Defendant No.1 as gospel truth. The responsibility, therefore, of Defendant No.1 is higher," Justice Prasad observed.

The court emphasised that Wikipedia's own policy requires content to be presented from a neutral point of view.

"On perusal of the page pertaining to the plaintiff (ANI), it appears that the statements on the page pertaining to the plaintiff are all sourced from articles which are nothing but editorials and opinionated pages," the court observed.

Modi reaches Colombo, to discuss key issues with Sri Lankan President

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived in Colombo on Friday night for a weekend visit focused on bilateral discussions and the signing of several key agreements between India and Sri Lanka. Mr. Modi travelled to Sri Lanka after attending the BIMSTEC summit in Thailand.

Invited by Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake, Mr. Modi's visit is the first by a foreign head of government since the significant political changes in Sri Lanka last year, which saw President Dissanayake and his National People's Power (NPP) alliance assume office. This follows President Dissanayake's first state visit abroad to New Delhi in December 2024, shortly after his election victory.

According to Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Vijitha Herath, speaking in an interview with *The Hindu* earlier this week, a total of eight Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) are expected to be signed during the visit, covering sectors such as energy, digital infrastructure, health, and defence

Artistic greeting: Prime Minister Narendra Modi being welcomed in Colombo on Friday. @NARENDRAMODI/X

Ties 'never been better'

Indian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka Santosh Jha remarked to local media that bilateral ties "have never been better". He added that Mr. Modi's visit aims to build upon the "very comprehensive" joint statement adopted during Mr. Dissanayake's trip to New Delhi.

The PM's official engagements begin on Saturday, April 5. Accompanied by External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, National Security Adviser Ajit Doval, and Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, Mr. Modi will receive a ceremonial guard of honour at Independence Square in Colombo. This will be followed by bilateral talks and the signing of agreements at the Presidential Secretariat.

Sources in Colombo indicated that Mr. Modi's schedule on Saturday also includes meetings with several opposition political figures, including representatives of the Tamil community. On Sunday, April 6, Mr. Modi is scheduled to travel to Anuradhapura in Sri Lanka's North Central Province.

Key topics expected during the discussions include ongoing economic cooperation, Sri Lanka's debt restructuring efforts, potential Indian investments, and the sensitive, long-standing fisheries conflict affecting Tamil fishermen from both Sri Lanka's northern province and Tamil Nadu.

The fisheries issue gains added significance as Mr. Modi is scheduled to travel directly from Sri Lanka to Rameswaram in Tamil Nadu on April 6, a coastal town from which many bottom trawlers operate.

Maharashtra govt. to crack down on 'huge Waqf land scam', says Fadnavis

Maharashtra CM says the passing of the Bill ended a 'draconian law' that was 'not well-thought out', adding that provisions of the amended law are in the 'constitutional spirit of a democratic, socialist Republic of India', and the aim is transparency

Vinaya Deshpande Pandit
MUMBAI

Clearing the air: Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis says the Waqf (Amendment) Bill has nothing to do with Hindutva.

The Maharashtra government will soon crack down on a "massive Waqf land scam in Maharashtra from 2000 to 2014", Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis told *The Hindu* on Friday. In an exclusive conversation, he said the Waqf (Amendment) Bill had nothing to do with Hindutva.

"It is in the constitutional spirit of a democratic, socialist Republic of India," he said referring to the provisions of the amended law.

Calling the decision to pass the Bill a historic one for the benefit of the community, he said it ended a "draconian law" that was "not well-thought out" and "which had faced stringent observations by the top court". "The aim is to bring transparency. If the property is in the name of Allah, it should be transparent. It should be used for the benefit of people," he said.

Asked about the criticism of the Opposition that the new Bill was aimed at grabbing Waqf land, he claimed that the earlier governments had grabbed Waqf land.

"The entire Waqf land is grabbed by the Congress. There was a huge scam from the year 2000 to 2014. It had the names of all the big Congress leaders. In fact, I had raised the issue in the Assembly. A committee headed by a judge was formed. The committee had submitted a report that the land was grabbed by these leaders. We will now take action in that matter," he said.

Several leaders involved

Asked about the names of the Congress leaders involved in the scam, he said he did not remember the names off-hand, but several key leaders were named.

He slammed the Opposition parties for opposing the Waqf Bill. He criticised them, claiming that they adhered to the policy of "appeasement of minorities".

"They are now criticising us out of frustration. It is their policy of appeasement that makes them say it. They too know that the Bill is constitutional. They just want to please their constituency," he said.

Calling the Waqf Bill the need of the hour, he said it was the right time to bring about a law with practical provisions. "It was an opportune time for the earlier Waqf law to be amended. It was draconian in nature. There was no system of appeal. If my house was declared as a Waqf property, I had no way to appeal. The process was very cumbersome. How can it be constitutional if there is no right to appeal?" he said.

He said the community's concerns about infringement of their religious rights were also addressed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

(You can watch the full interview on 'Pulse Maharashtra', launching at 8.30 p.m. on Saturday on The Hindu's *YouTube channel)*

First Budget Session of the 18th Lok Sabha concludes with record productivity

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The first Budget Session of the 18th Lok Sabha concluded on Friday, with both Houses of Parliament passing the controversial Waqf (Amendment) Bill.

The session that was marked by high productivity saw disruptions on the last day, with adjournments in both Houses.

In the Rajya Sabha, the Treasury benches began the protests, flagging the Supreme Court judgment upholding the Calcutta High Court's decision cancelling *en bloc* a "tainted" selection process which saw the appointments of nearly 24,000 teachers and non-teaching staff in government and aided schools in West Bengal.

Speaking amid the din, Trinamool Congress's Rajya Sabha leader Derek O'Brien said, "People of India are seeing that BJP MPs in the Treasury benches are disrupting Parliament... we are not allowed to raise a single issue in Parliament." The Trinamool's demand to hold a debate on duplication of Electoral Photo Identity Cards was not heeded to.

Kiren Rijiju

'History created'

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju, said the session was a success. At the customary press conference held on conclusion of the session, he told reporters that the productivity of Lok Sabha during the session was 118% and that of the Upper House was 119%.

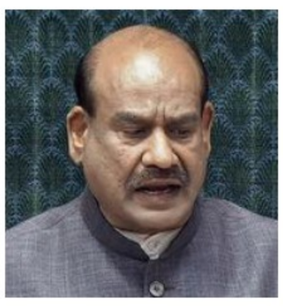
He said history was created and old records were broken in the Rajya Sabha when it sat without a break for 17.02 hours from 11 a.m. on Thursday till 4.02 a.m. on Friday to clear the Waqf Bill, besides endorsing the President's Rule in Manipur. A total of 16 Bills were passed by both Houses of Parliament.

Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar also lauded the high productivity in the Rajya Sabha.

In his concluding remarks, he said, "After a long gap, the House witnessed welcome wit, humour, sarcasm and repartee, apart from intellectual fusion while ensuring parliamentary decorum, cross-party collaboration, and legislative rigour."

Speaker Birla takes stern view of Sonia's remarks on the Bill

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI



Om Birla

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Friday said the remarks made by former Congress president Sonia Gandhi over the Waqf (Amendment) Bill were "most unfortunate". Ms. Gandhi, who is a member of the Rajya Sabha, had said the Bill had been "bulldozed through" in Parliament.

The issue was raised by members of the Treasury benches in the morning when the Lok Sabha assembled. While the MPs started shouting slogans such as "Sonia Gandhi, *Maafi maango*" (Sonia Gandhi, apologise), the Opposition members raised slogans demanding answers from the government over the U.S. tariffs.

Without naming Ms. Gandhi, Mr. Birla said a senior member casting aspersions on the House proceedings was against the dignity of Parliamentary traditions. "One Congress leader, who was earlier a member of this House and is currently a member of the other House, has said in the Parliamentary premises that the Waqf Amendment Bill was passed by Parliament by force. The House debated the Bill for 13 hours and 53 minutes, during which all parties kept their views. Three times voting took place. Thus, the Bill was passed in accordance with the rules. So, it is unfortunate that a Member of Parliament has raised questions on the House. It is not right."

Congress MP, AIMIM chief move SC against 'unconstitutional' Waqf Bill

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Differing stance: Mohammad Jawed said in his plea that the Bill undermined the religious autonomy of the Muslim community.

Congress MP Mohammad Jawed challenged the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025 in the Supreme Court on Friday, hours after the proposed law was cleared by Parliament after a prolonged deliberation in the Rajya Sabha.

Lok Sabha MP and All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) chief Asaduddin Owaisi has also separately challenged the Bill in the Supreme Court. Mr. Owaisi, represented by advocate Nizam Pasha, argued that Waqfs, their establishment, management and administration, form an integral aspect of the practice of Islam and are entitled to Constitutional protection.

"While Parliament represents the will of the people, in today's era of majoritarian politics, the Supreme Court has to discharge its constitutional duty as a *sentinel on the qui vive* to protect the minority from the tyranny of the majority," Mr. Owaisi urged.

Mr. Jawed, who was a member of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, said the provisions of the law imposed "arbitrary restrictions on Waqf properties and their management, thereby undermining the religious autonomy of the Muslim community".

"The amendments undermine property rights protected under Article 300A. By expanding state control over Waqf assets, limiting the ability of individuals to dedicate property for religious purposes, and subjecting Waqf properties to heightened scrutiny, the Act goes against the Supreme Court's judgment that transferring control of religious property to secular authorities is an infringement of religious and property rights," the petition contended.

It submitted that the provisions of the proposed law discriminated against Muslims by imposing restrictions which were not part of the governance of other religious endowments.

"For instance, while Hindu and Sikh religious trusts continue to enjoy a degree of self-regulation, the amendments to the Waqf Act, 1995, disproportionately increases state intervention in Waqf affairs," the Lok Sabha MP from Kishanganj constituency in Bihar said.

He said the Bill in the present form violated Article 14 (right to equality), a Basic Feature of the Constitution.

Mr. Jawed, represented by advocate Anas Tanwir, said it introduced arbitrary classifications that lack any reasonable nexus with the objectives sought to be achieved, making it impermissible under the doctrine of manifest arbitrariness.

The restrictions further discriminated against recent converts to Islam who wished to dedicate their property, thereby violating Article 15.

Modi hails passage of Waqf Bill, calls it a watershed moment

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Narendra Modi

The passage of the Waqf (Amendment) Bill in Parliament is a "watershed moment in the country's collective quest for socio-economic justice, transparency and inclusive growth", Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Friday.

Posting his views on X, he said the new law would particularly help those who have long remained on the margins, thus being denied both voice and opportunity. He said that for decades, the Waqf system had been synonymous with a lack of transparency and accountability, especially harming the interests of Muslim women, poor Muslims, and Pasmanda Muslims from disadvantaged communities.

"The passage of the Waqf (Amendment) Bill and the Mussalman Wakf (Repeal) Bill by both Houses of Parliament marks a watershed moment in our collective quest for socio-economic justice, transparency and inclusive growth," he said, adding that the legislation would boost transparency and safeguard people's rights.

India will now enter an era where the Waqf framework will be more modern and sensitive to social justice, the Prime Minister said.

"On a larger note, we remain committed to prioritising the dignity of every citizen. This is also how we build a stronger, more inclusive and more compassionate India," he said.

4 more JD(U) leaders resign over support for Waqf Bill

The Hindu Bureau
PATNA

The support of the Janata Dal(U) for the Waqf (Amendment) Bill in Parliament has not gone down well with Muslim leaders of the party.

After Mohammad Kasim Ansari, who resigned on Thursday, four more Muslim leaders tendered their resignation on Friday.

Angered with the party's stand, JD(U) State secretary of minority cell Mohammad Shahnawaz Mallik, Bettiah (West Champaran) district vice-president Nadeem Akhtar, State general secretary (minority cell) Mohammad Tabrez Siddiqui Alig, and party member from Bhojpur Mohammad Dilshan Rayeen resigned.

In one of the resignation letters, it has been mentioned that the impact of the party's support for the Bill would be felt in the upcoming Assembly election in Bihar.

As NDA allies align, Budget Session signals the return of BJP dominance

NEWS ANALYSIS

Nistula Hebbar
NEW DELHI

Return to power: In a way, the allies, more than ever in the history of the NDA, have embedded themselves into the BJP's agenda. ANI

The Lok Sabha cleared the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025, with 288 MPs in favour of it and 232 against it. The Rajya Sabha saw 128 votes in favour of the Bill and 95 against. The numbers indicate that the BJP's allies in the ruling NDA are firmly back at its side.

The parties in the middle, the Biju Janata Dal and the YSR Congress Party, did not issue any whip to their MPs on how to vote on the Bill in the Rajya Sabha.

This was not the situation when the government first brought in the Waqf Bill in August 2024, in the first Parliament Session after the Lok Sabha election. The Bill was referred to a Joint Parliamentary Committee on the same day, reportedly at the behest of the BJP's own allies – the Janata Dal(U), the Telegu Desam Party, and the Lok Janshakti Party, who were keen to protect their minority support bases.

Coalition politics

Again in August 2024, it was the BJP's ally Chirag Paswan who protested against any plans for lateral entry into the UPSC which would not be subject to reservation for the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, and the Other Backward Classes as in regular recruitment. The government had to walk back that proposal.

It seemed that India was firmly back in the coalition era of allies flexing their muscles and forcing the roll-back of decisions.

Regardless of the rhetoric surrounding the actual content of the legislation, the passage of the Waqf Bill in both Houses this week has more to do with the fact that the Modi government seems to have rediscovered its appeal and reclaimed its political authority. The comprehensive electoral victories posted by the BJP in Maharashtra, Haryana, and then Delhi have contributed a lot to the restoration of the hegemonic political position that the BJP has occupied for the last decade or so.

The political compulsions of its allies have also contributed to the situation – in Andhra Pradesh, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu is anxious to gain Central funds and support for the State, while in Bihar, the increasingly frail health of Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has seen the JD(U) drift even closer to the BJP's political programmes.

In a way, the allies, more than ever in the history of the NDA, have embedded themselves into the BJP's agenda. The NDA will enter the upcoming Bihar election on a polarisation platform which works for the BJP but may not for the rest, but none of them seem to be complaining.

Narrow margin of defeat during voting in Rajya Sabha takes Opposition by surprise

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

The additional votes against the Bill were contributed by the AIADMK, BRS, YSRCP and BJD

With the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) on the cusp of finalising their alliance, the Tamil Nadu party voted with the Opposition against the Waqf (Amendment) Bill in the Rajya Sabha, while the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) did not issue a whip, allowing its members to "exercise their conscience" to decide their vote, but a majority of the members voted against the Bill.

Unlikely collaborators came together in the Upper House to narrow the gap between the Opposition and Treasury benches as the controversial Bill went for division at 2.30 a.m. in the Rajya Sabha. As many as 128 MPs voted in favour of the Bill and 95 went against it, taking the Opposition by surprise. The gap in the Upper House was much narrower than in Lok Sabha, where the Bill passed by a margin of 56 votes.

The INDIA bloc together has only 81 members in the Upper House. Their united strength is less than the BJP's tally of 98 members. At least six of their members, as per sources, for various reasons were absent.

The additional votes against the Bill were contributed by the AIADMK, the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), the YSRCP, and the BJD.

Last month, the AIADMK had supported the DMK-sponsored resolution against the Waqf Bill in the Tamil Nadu Assembly. Making a brief and circumspect intervention past 10 p.m. without directly opposing the Bill, AIADMK leader M. Thambidurai said: "AIADMK party is keen that the Muslim community's interests are protected and safeguarded." The AIADMK has four members in the Rajya Sabha. All four of them were present and voted against the Bill.

According to sources, four of the seven BJD members voted with the Opposition. Its leader Sasmit Patra and MP Sulata Deo voted in favour of the Bill with the government.

The numbers also indicate that the majority of YSRCP MPs also voted against the Bill.

The party's MP Yerram Venkata Subba Reddy had opposed the Bill using the opportunity to also attack political rival Telugu Desam Party (TDP) for failing the 50 lakh Muslims of Andhra Pradesh.

(With inputs from Satyasundar Barik)

INBRIEF

Allahabad High Court refuses to quash summons to Rahul

The Allahabad High Court on Friday refused to quash summons issued to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in the V.D. Savarkar defamation case by a magistrate court in Lucknow. The Bench of Justice Subhash Vidyarthi noted that Mr. Gandhi had the remedy of moving the Sessions Judge under Section 397 of the Cr.PC (Section 438 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita). "The inherent powers of this court recognised by Section 482 Cr.P.C. are meant to be invoked to secure the ends of justice," the court said while dismissing Mr. Gandhi's plea. Mr. Gandhi had challenged an order of the trial court summoning him in the defamation case filed by advocate Nripendra Pandey.

Four Railway projects worth ₹18,658 crore get Cabinet nod

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) announced on Friday that four multi-tracking projects across the Indian Railways costing approximately ₹18,658 crore that cover 15 districts in three States – Maharashtra, Odisha and Chattisgarh – were approved. The project will increase the existing network of Indian Railways by about 1,247 km and will enhance connectivity to approximately 3,350 villages covering a population of nearly 47.25 lakh, Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said in a briefing on New Delhi. These projects include the Sambalpur-Jarapada third and fourth lines, Jharsuguda-Sason third and fourth lines, Kharsia-Naya Raipur-Parmalkasa fifth and sixth lines and Gondia-Balharshah doubling. These projects are expected to be completed by 2030-31.

Manoj Kumar, who made 'Bharat' a household name, takes his final bow

The veteran film personality will be remembered for making patriotism aspirational and raising bread-and-butter issues in popular idiom; he created an idealist hero, who stood for national integrity, putting family and country before self, and was steadfast in raising his voice against injustices

Anuj Kumar

Manoj Kumar, whose films played a vital role in shaping the cultural consciousness of the country, passed away in Mumbai early on Friday after a prolonged illness. He was 87.

Making 'Bharat' a household name, he created an idealist hero with a strong moral compass who stood for national integrity, putting family and country before self, and was steadfast in raising his voice against social injustice, foreign influence, unemployment, and corruption.

Unlike the nationalism portrayed by Raj Kapoor and Mehboob Khan, Kumar's imagination of Mother India was a lot more direct, almost overt. Born in Abbottabad (now in Pakistan) in 1937, his cinematic language was a product of Partition, where he lost his younger brother during riots. The personal tragedy shaped his views on nationalism and the importance of unity.

Over the years, some find the depiction of the clash of cultures between village and city and the East and the West in his iconic films *Upkar* (1967) and *Purab Aur Pachhim* (1970) simplistic. Put into context, in the mid-1960s and early 1970s, when the Bollywood hero was on a picnic in Kashmir while India was at war with a belligerent neighbour, Kumar made loving your country an aspirational idea. He made *Shor* (1972) for the rights of the mill worker, espoused communal amity, and kept issues of *Roti Kapada Aur Makaan* (1974) relevant at the box office in a poetic fashion.

Global anthems

Songs like *Mere Desh Ki Dharti Sona Ugle* and *Bharat Ka Rehne Wala Hoon Bharat Ki Baat Sunata Hoon* became global anthems and inspired a generation, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who paid a rich tribute to Kumar.

The alarm for reviving the Golden Bird period and the bugle call for being vocal for local, which drive the ruling dispensation, find their echo in Kumar's universe. The filmmaker was the first recipient of the Dada Saheb Phalke Award after the NDA government came to power in 2014.

Kumar had a way with Prime Ministers. At the cusp of the Emergency, Kumar depicted the youth's growing disillusionment with the welfare state by raking up issues of unemployment and rampant inflation in *Roti Kapada Aur Makaan*, where the song *Mehngai Maar Gayi* won him the ire of Indira Gandhi's bureaucracy.

MANOJ KUMAR (1937-2025)

Before that, when Kumar found his voice with *Shaheed* (1965), the most moving cinematic depiction of Bhagat Singh's life, he caught the eye of the then Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri. The film and the song *Mera Rang De Basanti Chola* struck a chord with Bhagat Singh's mother, and Shastri asked Kumar to take his slogan, Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan, to the public. It resulted in *Upkar*, where the character Bharat asks, "If every young man moves out of the village, who will take care of the country's hunger?" Educated, Bharat is a farmer by choice, and he decides to put his family and his village before himself, which wins him the heroine's attention.

Romantic hero

Born as Harikrishna Goswami, Kumar picked his screen name from Dilip Kumar's character in *Shabnam* (1949). Inspired by the thespian, he started as a romantic hero. After an uneven start, thrillers like *Woh Kaun Thi* (1964), *Poonam Ki Raat* (1965), and *Gumnam* (1965) made him a big draw at the box office, and romantic dramas like *Do Badan* (1966) and *Patthar Ke Sanam* (1967) cemented his honest face in the hearts. He delivered a sensitive performance opposite Dilip Kumar in *Aadmi* (1968), and despite a strong patriotic image and moral stand, he successfully kept escaping the image trap by mixing up titles by doing a *Sanyasi* (1975) between *Be-iman* (1972) and *Dus Numbari* (1976).

Conscious of his limitations as an actor, he covered them quite well. Long before it became material for memes, his gesture of covering his face with his palm won him a strong female fan following. It is said that covering the face was a signal to the cameraperson to zoom in, and when his fingers moved from right to left or left to right, it was to direct the trolley movement.

His collaborators say that Kumar had a grasp of every department of filmmaking. For Kumar, songs were always integral to the story, for they conveyed what dialogues could not. Composers Kalyanji-Anandji always acknowledged Kumar's contribution.

Having started his career as a ghostwriter, his creative advice was sought even when he worked outside his home production. It is said that he contributed to Raj Kapoor's *Mera Naam Joker*, where he made a special appearance. His long-time assistant Chandra Barot, who went on to direct Amitabh Bachchan's *Don*, credits Kumar for pushing him to include *Khaike Paan Benaras Wala* at a tense moment in the caper.

Be it Saira Banu in *Purab Aur Pacchim*, Zeenat Aman in *Roti Kapada Aur Makan*, or Hema Malini in *Kranti*, there was a touch of titillation in the way Kumar's camera captured the female figure in his films. His depiction of rape in *Roti Kapada Aur Makaan* and *Clerk* was questioned. However, in films like *Upkar* and *Shor*, we find a more robust female protagonist.

By the 1980s, Kumar had lost touch with the times. After his magnum opus *Kranti* (1981), he delivered a series of duds like *Kalyug Aur Ramayan* and *Santosh*. His style was reduced to a gimmick, and his mannerisms became forced as critics panned his works as attempts to promote his brother and son.

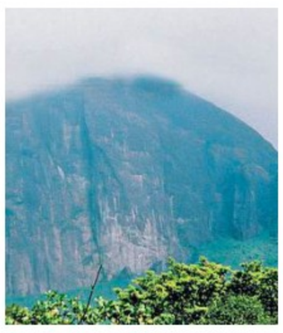
Meanwhile, his ideological stance moved further right. He joined the Bharatiya Janata Party in 2004 and pitched for Mr. Modi in 2014. He chose to remain away from the public eye, but Bharat missed his singular vision.

SC directs CEC to survey forests in Agasthyamalai for encroachments

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has directed the Central Empowered Committee (CEC) to conduct an extensive survey of the entire tropical forest ecosystems of the Agasthyamalai landscape in the southernmost Western Ghats to identify non-forestry activities and encroachments.

In a 16-page judgment, a Bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta termed the survey as an interim measure "to initiate the process of restoration of the pristine forest areas and to protect the tiger habitats, wildlife reserves and sanctuaries falling under the Agasthyamalai biosphere".



Tropical forest: Agasthyamalai is a 3,500-km biosphere reserve within T.N. and Kerala.

The Agasthyamalai landscape is recognised by the UNESCO as a 3,500-km biosphere reserve falling within both Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

The CEC survey would include the Periyar tiger reserve, Srivilliputhur grizzled squirrel wildlife sanctuary, Meghamalai and Thirunelveli wildlife sanctuaries. The judgment was pronounced on March 24 and published on Friday. The report would contain the comparative data pertaining to the forest cover as it existed earlier vis-à-vis the current position in order to gauge the extent of depletion and degradation in the forest area.

"The world at large is facing the calamities caused by climate change, and the primary culprit behind this is the depleting forest cover owing to a myriad of issues including rapid urbanisation, unchecked industrialisation, encroachments, etc.," Justice Mehta observed.

The judgment was based on a recommendation made by its amicus curiae, senior advocate K. Parmeshwar, who submitted that plantations and systematic encroachments in the landscape for almost a century have depleted the forest cover.

The judgment came in separate petitions highlighting the immediate need to preserve the reserved forests, wildlife sanctuaries and tiger reserves in Tamil Nadu as well as the rehabilitation of workers who were evicted after the Bombay Burma Trading Corporation Limited tea estate at Singampatti, Tamil Nadu, was declared to be a reserved forest, wildlife sanctuary and tiger reserve under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act.

CSIR-NAL signs technology transfer deal with firm to make HANSA trainer-planes

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

In a first, the National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL) – a Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) body – has signed a technology transfer agreement with a private company to manufacture trainer airplanes in India. This would be the first time that the aircraft would be manufactured in India based on technology fully designed and developed indigenously.

The HANSA-3 NG aircraft is a two-seater aircraft and is the latest iteration of the HANSA planes that have been made by NAL since 1998. Fourteen HANSA planes have been made over the years by NAL and used by the Ministry of Civil Aviation and the Indian Institutes of Technology. "We have now managed to seal a partnership with a private company which will manufacture these planes," said N. Kalaiselvi, Director-General, CSIR.

Union Minister Jitendra Singh during the announcement of ToT partner for HANSA-3 (NG).

The company, Pioneer Clean AMPS Pvt Limited, is expected to set up manufacturing facilities as well as handle marketing, servicing and after-sales, though NAL would be closely involved in the initial years to help them with various aspects of the manufacturing and operations, said Abhay Pashlikar, Director, CSIR-NAL.

The HANSA-NG is powered by a Rotax Digital Control Engine with features such as a composite light weight airframe, a glass cockpit, a bubble canopy with wide panoramic view, and electrically operated flaps, among other features, a brochure says.

Cong. rolls out fellowship for professionals to join politics

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Friday launched the Dr. Manmohan Singh Fellows programme, named after the former Prime Minister, inviting mid-career professionals to join politics with an aim to build a modern and progressive India.

Under the fellowship, 50 mid-career professionals will be chosen every year and mentored by senior party leaders from professional backgrounds.

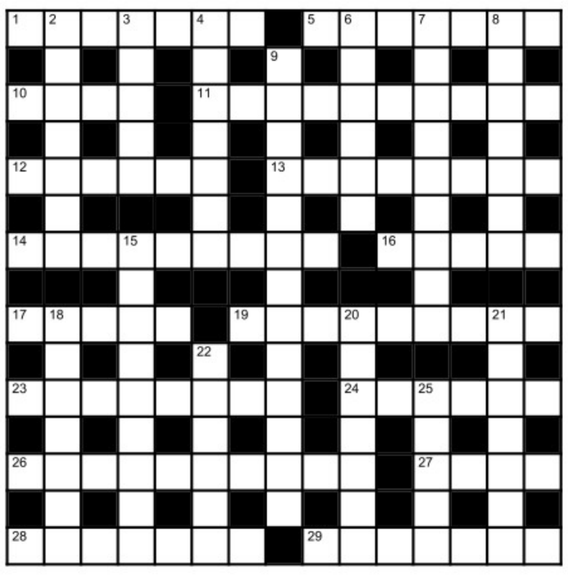
Those who have spent a minimum 10 years in the professional world and attained financial security and are passionate about building a progressive India would be chosen.

TH CROSSWORD + 14451

(set by Avtaar)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Earth taken out from uncut grassy patch completely (7)
5 Policewoman hiding husband's axe (7)
10 Collection of anecdotes about North African State's primaries (4)
11 Work on new tariff to cover closed circuits, chiefly for on-road monitor (7,3)
12 Heard shout "Nurse, it is an emergency" (6)
13 Watchful European wanting to counter cutting article in newspaper (4-4)
14 Silly to entertain master of local slang (9)
16 Rank 144 (5)
17 Supports venture to visit Mars every so often (5)
19 Bar's cleaner taking girl out for dinner, at the close (9)
23 Veteran in favour of returning Avtaar's draft (3,5)
24 Sweet Charlie takes time off for drink (6)
26 Competition's withdrawn round - those who came undressed, starting to rehearse (10)
27 Infectious disease killed college poet (4)
28 I love LA's fossilised pits (7)
29 Cook with oil in can with fine bits of raw yam (4,3)

Down

2 Many in fear reportedly led by member of barbarian tribe (7)
3 Topless grills for ovens (5)
4 Become a sailor's stooge, training with captain's second (2,2,3)
6 Raised note about banks in Frankfurt (6)
7 Select more rum out of India for surveyor (9)
8 European recalled crux of poem "Scooters" (7)
9 Switch tracks following dog, crossing outskirts of Toledo (3-1-4-5)
15 Uncertain future - too unpredictable (3,2,4)
18 Zanzibar now legally protects nocturnal flier (4,3)
20 With terminals of office in sync, programmers initially try to crack code (7)
21 Wanting more, picked up joint, love (7)
22 Girl on vacation providing refuge to stray fawn (6)
25 Batter's boundary to cross half-century (5)

SUDOKU

			9	7			2	
					1		3	7
				6		5		
2						6		
9	8		4		2		1	5
		5						2
		9		4				
7	1		2					
	6			1	5			

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to previous puzzle

D	E	H	U	M	A	N	I	S	E		R	I	N	D
A		A		O		E		U			C		U	
D	I	S	G	R	A	C	I	N	G		B	I	L	E
O		P		A		T		B		C		N		P
			S	L	O	A	N	E	R	A	N	G	E	R
F		B		I		R		A		B		S		O
O	V	E	R	T	L	Y		M	O	L	L	U	S	C
R		W		Y					E		G		E	
B	R	I	T	P	O	P		I	N	R	O	A	D	S
I		T		L		R		N		A		R		S
D	I	C	T	A	T	O	R	S	H	I	P			
D		H		Y		V		U		L		H		S
I	B	I	S		P	I	L	L	O	W	T	A	L	K
N		N				S		I		A		L		I
G	A	G	A		C	O	U	N	T	Y	T	O	W	N

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

3	9	6	5	4	8	1	7	2
5	2	1	9	7	3	4	8	6
8	4	7	2	1	6	3	9	5
7	8	4	3	5	2	9	6	1
6	5	2	1	8	9	7	3	4
1	3	9	7	6	4	5	2	8
9	7	5	6	2	1	8	4	3
2	1	8	4	3	7	6	5	9
4	6	3	8	9	5	2	1	7

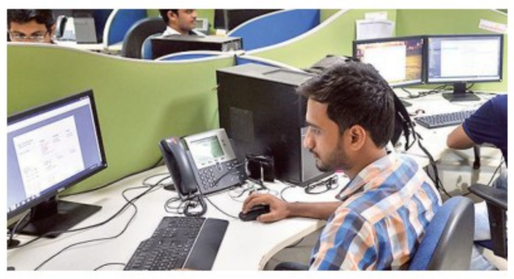
FAITH

Efficacy of Rama Navami

Narayana Himself manifested on earth as Rama to establish three things. First, He wanted to highlight the true, selfless devotion of Guhan, Sabari, Vibhishana to the universe. Secondly, he wanted to destroy evil forces as personified by Ravana and others. Third, and most importantly, He manifested to lead by example and show mankind the importance of treading the path of dharma in day-to-day life, said Tirukkudanthai Dr. Venkatesh.

The Lord was born to King Dasaratha and Queen Kausalya as Rama in Ayodhya in the Chaitra month (period between the new moon day of Panguni month and Chittirai month), during the Shukla paksha, under the Tamil star Punarvasu. This day is celebrated as Rama Navami. Devotees observe fast and perform puja during the noon hour (when Rama was born). They also recite the relevant verses pertaining to Rama's birth, as elucidated in Valmiki Ramayana or Kamba Ramayana, as per their choice. It is considered efficacious to offer garlands of tulsi to Rama, Lakshmana, Sita and Hanuman. Chanting of Rama namam and offering fresh flowers are also in practice. Offerings to the Lord include rice, *panagam* (jaggery juice), thin buttermilk, rice and standard delicacies. A recitation of Periavachan Pillai's Ramayana, culled from the works of Azhwars, is also a time honed tradition. Pundits say that such a reading is equivalent of reading the 24,000 verses of Valmiki Ramayana and the 4,000 verses in Divya Prabhandam. Chanting of Rama nama, hearing discourses on Ramayana, taking part in bhajans and writing of Rama nama are some of the spiritual goals for devotees on this auspicious day.

INBRIEF



India's services sector growth moderates in March: PMI

India's services sector activity eased slightly in March weighed down by a marginal slowdown in sales amid softer demand conditions and easing inflationary pressures, according to a monthly survey. The HSBC India Services PMI Business Activity Index fell from February's reading of 59.0 to 58.5 in March, but remained above its long-run average of 54.2. "Domestic and international demand remained fairly buoyant, despite being sequentially a tick lower than the month before," Pranjul Bhandari, Chief India Economist HSBC, said. PTI

RBI to issue ₹10, ₹500 notes bearing Governor's signature

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said it will issue ₹10 and ₹500 denomination banknotes in Mahatma Gandhi (New) Series bearing the signature of new RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra. The design of these notes is similar in all respects to ₹10 and ₹500 banknotes in Mahatma Gandhi (New) Series, it said. All banknotes in the denomination of ₹10 issued by the RBI in the past will continue to be legal tender. All banknotes in the denomination of ₹500 in Mahatma Gandhi (New) Series issued by the Reserve Bank in the past will also continue to be legal tender, it said.

LIC refutes USTR views on preferential treatment

The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) refuted views by the United States Trade Representative (USTR) the State-owned insurer got preferential treatment from the Centre. LIC said it was treated like any other insurer by the Centre and regulators. To an observation in USTR 2025 national trade estimate report on foreign trade barriers stating many chose LIC policies as the Centre maintained explicit sovereign guarantee on them, it said the guarantee was a statutory provision to build public confidence in early years of insurance nationalisation. It has never been invoked or used as a marketing tool.

'Indian M&E sector grew 8.1% in 2023 to reach ₹2.32 trillion'

Indian media and entertainment (M&E) sector grew 8.1% in 2023 to reach ₹2.32 trillion from ₹2.14 trillion in 2022 and is expected to touch ₹3.08 trillion in 2026 logging a compounded annual growth rate of 10%, according to industry reports quoted in the 2023-24 report of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). While television represents about 30% of the total media and entertainment revenue, digital media has seen a phenomenal 38% growth in subscriptions in 2023. Revenue of Indian television industry stood at ₹69,600 crore in 2023 against ₹70,900 crore in 2022, a 1.8% dip.

'U.S. tariffs may pare India's FY26 real GDP growth by up to 0.3%'

Inflation expected to be caused by exchange rate volatility, its effect to be largely on the whole sale price index, says BoB Research

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

U.S. President Donald Trump's tariffs will pare India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth for fiscal 2026 by a range of 0.2% to 0.4%, according to forecasts by economists.

The Bank of Baroda research cut inflation adjusted GDP growth rate estimates to come in at 6.6%, down from the Union Budget forecast of 6.8%.

Going by the Budget document, the real GDP for India would have been ₹200.7 lakh crore. The tariff effect would reduce this to ₹200.3 lakh crore, as it would grow at a slower 6.6%, according to BoB estimates.

Barclays trimmed estimates to 6.5%, which would mean that GDP would be further lower at ₹200.1 lakh crore.

On inflation, researchers at BoB said it was expected to be caused by exchange rate volatility and the effect would largely be on the whole sale price index (WPI) inflation.

"Our analysis showed that a 10% depreciation in INR can lead to a ~0.12-0.16% increase in WPI in the short run, and 0.38%-0.49% in the long-run."

On monetary policy, economists at Elara Securities expect RBI to cut rates by 50 basis points in FY26.

The Ministry of Commerce, in a statement, assured that options are being examined and economists too express the possibility of negotiations with the U.S. This is expected to mitigate the risks that may arise from tariffs.

The tariffs are expected to hit 9-11% of India's exports to the U.S., according to the economists.

This includes electronics, precious stones and machinery besides ready-made garments, according to BoB. These sectors constitute a large share of small and medium enterprises, BoB said.

Economists at Barclays, however, estimated a higher share of 11% of exports being hit.

India's exports to the U.S. were valued at about ₹6.4 lakh crore in FY24, the latest for which full-year data is available with the MInistry of Commerce and Industry. A tenth of this (assuming the higher estimate made by BoB research) would mean a dip in exports of about ₹64,000 crore.

Up to January 2025, India's exports to the U.S. were at ₹5.76 lakh crore, which is already 2.4% lower than the same period in FY24, without accounting for the tariff effect. The 10-month export number covers more than 90% of the full year numbers. Tariffs would hit exports to the U.S. by ₹57,000 crore.

Tariffs would also hit company earnings in India as export turnovers can reduce and companies might have to cut prices for competitive edge, BoB Research said. "This is something which banks would also need to monitor given their exposures to these sectors," it added.

Trumped by tariffs

BoB Research cut inflation adjusted GDP growth rate estimates to 6.6%, down from the Budget forecast of 6.8%

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- Barclays trimmed estimates to 6.5%, which would mean that GDP will be further lower at ₹200.1 lakh crore

Sensex crashes 931 points amid fears of trade war, recession; pharma stocks hit

Lalatendu Mishra
N. Ravikumar
MUMBAI/HYDERABAD

Pharma industry's joy over not figuring in the U.S. tariff list was short-lived with Trump announcing that a levy is coming

Frontline stock indices on Friday fell up to 1.5% owing to fears of a global trade war and potential recession in the global economy.

The S&P BSE Sensex plunged 931 points, or 1.22%, to 75,365 points, led by fall in Tata Steel (8.59%), Tata Motors (6.15%), L&T (4.67%), Adani Ports (4.38%), IndusInd Bank (3.83%) and RIL (3.52%).

The NSE Nifty index fell 346 points, or 1.49%, to 22,904 points. Out of the 2,947 stocks traded on the NSE, 2,230 declined, while only 646 stocks gained.

"Amid weak global cues, Indian equity markets opened on a negative note following an overnight plunge on Wall Street triggered by fears of a global trade war and rising concerns about a potential recession," said Sundar Kewat, technical and derivatives analyst, Ashika Institutional Equity.

"Nifty 50 opened lower at 23,190 and briefly touched 23,214 in early trade, but soon reversed course and slipped sharply to an intraday low of 22,874. Throughout the day, the index faced consistent selling pressure, dragging it below the crucial psychological support level of 23,000," he said.

Sectoral performance remained broadly negative with metals, pharmaceuticals, oil and gas, energy, and IT witnessing the most pronounced declines.

Shares of pharma companies were hit on Friday after the industry's joy over not figuring in the U.S. reciprocal tariff list proved short-lived with President Donald Trump announcing such a levy is coming.

"Looking at pharma as a separate category and will be announcing that in not too distant future," he said, adding the tariff would be at a level "never seen before." Mr. Trump said the tariff for semiconductor chips were also to be announced soon.

Out of the 20 companies forming part of the NSE's Nifty pharma index, 18 were in the red on Friday even as the sectoral index closed 4.03% lower. Barring Torrent Pharma and Mankind, shares of other pharma companies ended lower, with some wiping the gains of Thursday.

Dr. Reddy's Laboratories intra-day touched a 52-week low of ₹1,076.20 apiece. Shares of nine companies, including Aurobindo Pharma, Lupin, Granules Pharma, Laurus Labs and Gland Pharma ended lower by 5% and more.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	FRIDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	75,365	-1.22
US Dollar	85.44	-0.16
Gold	93,000	-1.43
Brent oil	65.36	—

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2334.65	-76.15
Adani Ports	1148.35	-51.55
Apollo Hosp	6714.55	43.20
Asian Paints	2356.05	6.65
Axis Bank	1091.30	1.45
Bajaj Auto	7685.10	-227.10
Bajaj Finserv	1912.30	-8.15
Bajaj Finance	8718.85	124.25
Bharat Elec	280.00	-7.50
Bharti Airtel	1743.45	-2.55
Cipla	1415.25	-80.45
Coal India	385.05	-12.00
Dr Reddys Lab	1109.95	-41.50
Eicher Motors	5247.90	-131.25
Grasim Ind	2616.90	-35.00
HCL Tech	1422.10	-48.00
HDFC Bank	1817.30	22.45
HDFC Life	689.05	-3.85
Hero MotoCorp	3659.20	-94.15
Hindalco	599.95	-52.70
Hind Unilever	2244.55	0.00
ICICI Bank	1335.30	5.75
IndusInd Bank	682.00	-27.40
Infosys	1451.65	-44.85
ITC	409.70	0.30
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	222.32	-8.09
JSW Steel	1005.75	-38.30
Kotak Bank	2131.95	-0.65
L&T	3260.15	-160.00
M&M	2596.55	-14.90
Maruti Suzuki	11482.00	-206.10
NestleIndia	2262.15	16.50
NTPC	350.40	-8.50
ONGC	226.01	-17.30
PowerGrid Corp	293.90	-5.20
Reliance Ind	1204.70	-44.00
SBI Life	1512.60	-29.65
State Bank	767.45	-11.75
Shriram Finance Ltd.	653.60	-0.55
Sun Pharma	1709.35	-60.65
TataConsumerProduct	1087.85	16.85
Tata Motors	613.85	-40.10
Tata Steel	140.39	-13.23
TCS	3299.40	-103.75
Tech Mahindra	1320.95	-48.40
Titan	3076.20	-51.35
Trent Ltd.	5562.85	-112.45
UltraTech Cement	11498.65	-107.95
Wipro	246.30	-10.05
Zomato Ltd.	210.53	-0.37

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on April 04

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	85.04	85.36
Euro	93.95	94.31
British Pound	110.53	110.96
Japanese Yen (100)	58.68	58.90
Chinese Yuan	11.67	11.72
Swiss Franc	100.14	100.53
Singapore Dollar	63.40	63.65
Canadian Dollar	59.88	60.10
Malaysian Ringitt	19.15	19.25
Australian Dollar	51.56	51.77

Source:Indian Bank

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
PUBLIC HEALTH AND MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
NITs: 388/DB/SBM 2.0/101 ULBs/2024-25/3rd Call Dt: 02.04.2025
Name of the work: MA & UD- PHMED- Sewerage Projects in 101 ULBs in the State of Telangana under SBM 2.0, **Total Cost: Rs. 3769.34 Crores**; Bid Submission Start Date: **08.04.2025 @ 11.00 AM;** Bid Submission Closing Date: **28.04.2025 @ 04:30 PM.** For details visit **https://tender.telangana.gov.in.** Contact No:- 040-23325849, 9154299724.
Sd/- Superintending Engineer (PH),
DIPR R.O.No.10-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt. 04.04.2025 **West Circle, Hyderabad**

Uttar Pradesh State Industrial Development Authority
A-1/4, UPSIDA Complex, Lakhanpur, Kanpur 208024
INVITING BIDS FOR E-AUCTION
Ref. No. UPSIDA/2025/Industrial/14/Rollover-1 • Ref. No. UPSIDA/2025/Industrial/13/Rollover-2
Plots Available on E-Auction Portal: https://eauction.etender.sbi/SBI
Rules & Regulation displayed on - **www.onlineupsida.com & https://eauction.etender.sbi/SBI**
Beginning Date - **05.04.2025** • E-Auction Date- **24.04.2025, 10:00 AM to 01:00 PM**
Plot for Allotment also available @ Nivesh Mitra Portal : **niveshmitra.up.nic.in**
CEO, UPSIDA
For Further Details Contact : **Dial Help desk no. 022-22811110 or Mail to etender.support@sbi.in & eauction@upsida.co.in**

Central University of Himachal Pradesh
(Established under Central Universities Act, 2009)
Employment Notice No. 001/2025 Dated: 04.04.2025
Employment Notice No. 001/2025 Dated 04.04.2025 for the post of Finance Officer
Central University of Himachal Pradesh invites online applications from eligible Indian citizens for the post of **Finance Officer** to be filled on Direct Recruitment/Deputationbasis only. The Candidates may apply online from 04.04.2025. **Last Date 04.05.2025.** For further details please visit University Website i.e., **www.cuhimachal.ac.in**
REGISTRAR

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.
Regd. Office:- PSEB H. O. Building, The Mall, Patiala
Corporate Identification Number (CIN): U40109PB2010SGC033813
Contact NO. 96461-18773
TENDER ENQUIRY No.: QQ- 1337/PO/C&S DT 04.04.2025
Chief Purchase Officer/MM, Central Purchase Organization, PSPCL, 2nd floor, Multistorey Building, The Mall, Patiala, invites e-Tender for procurement of 4Cx95 sq.mm-280KM LT XLPE insulated, PVC sheathed, Aluminum Conductor, unarmoured cable, ISI marked as per tender specification no. QQ-1337/PO/C&S dated 04.04.2025. For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from 04.04.2025 (5:00PM) onwards.
Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in**
C255/25 76155/12/4103/2023/43300

RAJASTHAN STATE HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY, JAIPUR
GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN
No.F.7(124)/RSHA/WB/EPC-04/2024-25/D-1906 Date: 29-03-2025
NIT No. 60/2024-25
INVITATION OF BIDS FOR TOLL COLLECTION
Bids for Collection of user fee through fee collecting agency on the basis of open competitive bidding in the state of Rajasthan toll plazas located at **Manglana-makrana-borawad highway (SH-2B) length 15.50 km including makrana-bidiyad-parbatsar highway (SH-2D) length 22.50 km (total Length 38 Km) Under RSHDP-II On EPC Mode in the state of Rajasthan** are invited from interested bidders upto 11:30 AM on 22.04.2025.
Other particulars of bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in) of the state. The estimated value of Annual Remittance is **Rs. 2,78,87,451/-**
UBN No: PWD2526SLOB00002
Email: ho.rsha@rajasthan.gov.in
Tel:+91-141-2223547 **Member(Tech.),**
DIPR/C/4646/2025 RSHA, Jaipur

OFFICE OF PRINCIPAL, GOVT. DOON MEDICAL COLLEGE, PATEL NAGAR, DEHRADUN TEL. NO. 0135-2726020-2726021
Email ID: doonmedicalcollege@gmail.com Website: www.gdmcuk.com
Letter No.: GDMC/EC-1/Advt./Recruitment/2024-25/1853 Dated: 03.04.2025
WALK-IN- INTERVIEW
A walk-in-interview will be held on **09th April, 2025 (Wednesday) at 10:00 am onwards in Director, Medical Education, 107 Chander, Nagar, Dehradun** for various faculty positions **(Broad Specialities & Super Specialities)** of Government Doon Medical College, Dehradun. The appointments will be made on contractual basis upto a maximum of three years (Extendable on yearly basis) or till regular appointments are made, whichever is earlier. The details of vacancies in various departments are uploaded in the website of **Director, Medical Education, www.medicaleducation.uk.gov.in/recruitment** and Govt. Doon Medical College **www.gdmcuk.com**
Principal
Govt. Doon Medical College, Dehradun

Government of Telangana
HYDERABAD METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE BOARD
O/o. Chief General Manager (Engg), PCC-I, 5th Floor, Khairatabad, Hyderabad- 04, Telangana.
Expression of Interest (EOI) for Providing PMC & TPQA&QC (Project Management Consultant & Third Party Quality Assurance & Quality Control) consultancy services for the project of Rehabilitation, strengthening and improvement of sewer network in Zone-II as per Comprehensive Sewerage Master Plan covering Chandrayangutta Constituency
EOI.No.01/HMWSSB/CGM(E)/PCC-I/Zone-II-Sew-Extn/PMC & TPQA&QC/EoI/2025-26, Date : 03.04.2025
The Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) is implementing the project of **"Rehabilitation, strengthening and improvement of sewer network in Zone-II as per Comprehensive Sewerage Master Plan covering Chandrayangutta Constituency"**. The HMWSSB, desires to engage the PMC & TPQA&QC agency and the Expression of Interest (EOI) is hereby invited from the agencies / consultants having experience in the job of conducting Project Implementation Management & Third Party Quality for the STPs/ Sewerage Projects schemes. The agencies having experience of similar nature of works are required to apply with their credentials indicating that they are qualified to perform the said services with Central Govt/ State Govt / ULBs client certificates on similar assignments, organization details with their technical expertise of personnel, projects etc capable to undertake such assignments performed for similar nature of Projects.
The interested consultants may submit their application from **Date : 09.04.2025** to **Date : 17.04.2025** to **O/o Chief General Manager (E), PCC-I, HMWSSB, 5th Floor, Administrative Building, Front Block, Khairatabad, Hyderabad -500 004** along with non-refundable fee of **Rs.10000/-** in the form of Demand Draft drawn in favour of **"HMWSSB"** for issue of RFP Document.
Sd/-Chief General Manager (Engg.), PCC-I, 5th Floor, Khairatabad, Hyderabad, Telangana.

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भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, अंतरिक्ष विभाग / DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
विक्रम साराभाई अंतरिक्ष केंद्र / VIKRAM SARABHAI SPACE CENTRE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण ग्रुप / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP
तिरुवनंतपुरम / THIRUVANANTHAPURAM – 22 / (फोन नं. / Ph. No. 0471 – 2564568 / 4545 / 5669 / 4537)
दिनांक/Dated : 03-04-2025
ई-निविदा आमंत्रित करते हुए संक्षिप्त सूचना / BRIEF NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER
भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से निम्नलिखित कार्यों के लिए ई-टेंडरिंग द्वाराऑनलाइन मद-दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। On behalf of the President of India, online item-rate tenders are invited through E-tendering for the following works.
1. 70 एकड़, वीएसएससी, में नोदनचालित प्रयोगशाला का ऊर्ध्वाधर विस्तार के लिए वातानुकूलन कार्य / Air-conditioning works for proposed vertical extension of Fueldraulic Lab at 70 Acre, VSSC / NIT No. VSSC/CMG/A01/01/2025-2026 Dated 02.04.2025 **(पी.ए.सी./P.A.C.: ₹ 30.43 लाख/Lakhs)**
डाउनलोड करने की अवधि/Period for downloading: दिनांक 03.04.2025, से/to दिनांक 10.04.2025 (Sl. No. 1)
2. वीआरसी, वीएसएससी के मुख्य प्रयोगशाला भवन और वृत्ताकार भवन में निम्न पार्श्व एसु प्रणाली का प्रतिस्थापन / Replacement of low side AC system in Main Lab Building and Circular Building at VRC, VSSC / NIT No. VSSC/CMG/A01/02/2025-2026 Dated 02.04.2025 **(पी.ए.सी./P.A.C.: ₹ 137.50 लाख/Lakhs)**
3. 70 एकड़, वीएसएससी की ईंधनचालित प्रयोगशाला के प्रस्तावित ऊर्ध्वाधर विस्तार हेतु विद्युत कार्य / Electrical Works for Proposed Vertical Extension of Fueldraulics Laboratory at 70 Acre, VSSC / NIT No. VSSC/CMG/E01/04/2025-2026 Dated 02.04.2025 **(पी.ए.सी./P.A.C.: ₹ 57.22 लाख/Lakhs)**
4. वीआरसी, वीएसएससी की उन्नत बहुलक एवं पदार्थ अनुसंधान सुविधा के लिए विद्युत कार्य / Electrical works for Advanced Polymers and Materials Research Facility at VRC, VSSC / NIT No. VSSC/CMG/E01/05/2025-2026 Dated 02.04.2025 **(पी.ए.सी./P.A.C.: ₹ 68.04 लाख/Lakhs)**
5. एएसओई, टर्ल्स, वीएसएससी, तुंबा में अग्निशमन लाइनों का संवर्धन (सिविल तथा पीएच कार्य) / Augmentation of firefighting lines at ASOE, TERLS, VSSC, Thumba (Civil & PH works)/ NIT No. No. VSSC/CMG/C01/01/2025-26 Dated. 03.04.2025 **(पी.ए.सी./P.A.C.: ₹ 197.94 लाख/Lakhs)**
डाउनलोड करने की अवधि/Period for downloading: दिनांक 05.04.2025, से/to दिनांक 20.04.2025 (Sl. No. 2 to 5)
इच्छुक निविदाकार ब्यौरों के लिए www.tenderwizard.in/isro या www.isro.gov.in देखें। Interested tenderers may visit www.tenderwizard.in/isro or www.isro.gov.in for details.
Sd/- ग्रुप निदेशक / Group Director, सीएमजी, वीएसएससी / CMG,VSSC

APPOINTMENT

भारतीय समुद्री विश्वविद्यालय
INDIAN MARITIME UNIVERSITY
(A Central University under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India)
Established by an Act of the Parliament in 2008
Advt. No. IMU-HQ/R/NT/2025/01 Date: 05.04.2025
Recruitment Drive for Non-Teaching Positions (On Deputation Basis)
Applications are invited from Indian Nationals for the following non-teaching positions to be filled on Deputation basis. The initial period of deputation shall be for three years, further extendable by two years subject to approval of the competent authority. Interested candidates may submit their applications online through the link available at ***https://www.imu.edu.in/imunew/recruitment***.

Sl. No.	Post Code	Post	No. of posts	Pay Level (7th CPC pay matrix)
1.	NT-01	Finance Officer	01	Pay Level-14 [144200-218200]
2.	NT-02	Deputy Registrar	02	Pay Level-12 [78800-209200]
3.	NT-03	Assistant Librarian	02	Academic Pay Level-10 [57700-182400]
4.	NT-04	Assistant Registrar	05	Pay Level-10 [56100-177500]
5.	NT-05	Assistant Engineer (Civil)	02	
6.	NT-06	Assistant Engineer (Electrical)	02	
7.	NT-07	Section Officer	06	Pay Level-8 [47600-151100]
8.	NT-08	Section Officer (Finance)	03	
		Total	**23**	

The vacancies stated above are tentative and are subject to change. IMU reserves the right not to fill up any of the posts advertised (or) cancel the recruitment at any stage. The place of posting may be at IMU-HQ, Chennai or in any one of six campuses of IMU (Chennai, Kochi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Visakhapatnam).
Important dates:
Opening date for the submission of online application : 05.04.2025
Closing date for the submission of online application : 19.05.2025
Last date for receiving hard copies of the applications : 26.05.2025
Women candidates are encouraged to apply
For further details regarding the eligibility criteria: i.e., Age, Educational Qualifications, Experience, etc., please visit ***https://www.imu.edu.in/imunew/recruitment***
Sd/-
Registrar

KYIV

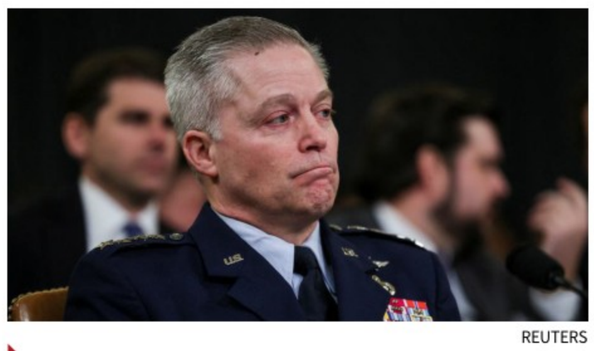
At least 14 killed in Russian missile strike on Zelenskyy's home city

AFP

A Russian ballistic missile strike on President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's home city of Kryvyi Rig killed 14 persons on Friday, including six children. The missile struck a residential area near a children's playground and wounded more than 50 people. Officials said the number of reported casualties was "constantly increasing". AFP

WASHINGTON

U.S. National Security Agency chief sacked after a year into the job



REUTERS

The head of secretive U.S. intelligence body, the National Security Agency (NSA), was fired on Thursday. The *Washington Post* cited U.S. officials who said General Timothy Haugh was fired after little over a year in the job. The officials did not give a reason for Haugh's removal. His NSA deputy Wendy Noble was also fired. AFP

LONDON

Actor Russell Brand charged with rape and other sexual offences

REUTERS

Police in London charged comedian and actor Russell Brand with rape and other sexual offences. The charges relate to offences alleged to have taken place between 1999 and 2005 involving four women. Mr. Brand became famous as the former husband of pop star Katy Perry after forging a career as a stand-up comedian. AFP

WASHINGTON

Donald Trump calls for 'direct talks' with Iran on nuclear deal

REUTERS

U.S. President Donald Trump said he wanted "direct talks" with Tehran on a nuclear deal, after he threatened to bomb Iran if it develops nuclear weapons. He has given Iran's leaders a two-month deadline to reach a deal on the country's nuclear programme, which has strained relations with Western nations for decades. AFP

Europe and Canada to spend more on defence, but are cool on U.S. demands

U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio says Washington is not insisting that allies hit the 5% spending target overnight, but 'we think that's what allies need to be spending for NATO to face the threats'; Mark Rutte plays down Donald Trump's tariffs

Associated Press
BRUSSELS

European NATO allies and Canada on Friday said they are willing to ramp up defence spending but are cool on American demands for the size of their military budgets, particularly given U.S. President Donald Trump's readiness to draw closer to Russian leader Vladimir Putin.

Mr. Trump has said that U.S. allies should commit to spending at least 5%. According to NATO figures, the U.S. was projected to have spent 3.38% last year, the only ally whose spending has dropped over the last decade.

United front: NATO Foreign Ministers during their meeting at the alliance's headquarters in Brussels on Friday. REUTERS

"It is important that we all agree that Russia is a threat. If not, I don't know why we should always increase more and more defence spending," Canadian Foreign Minister Mélanie Joly told reporters at NATO headquarters in Brussels.

U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio said that Washington is not insisting that its allies hit the 5% spending target overnight, but "we think that's what NATO allies need to be spending for NATO to face the threats that itself has identified and articulated."

France has set itself an "objective of 3%-3.5%, and we are preparing to reach 3%-3.5%, which is about the level of American defence spending," French Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot said.

Mr. Barrot said that new funds should be spent on European rather than American equipment.

Article 2 of NATO's founding treaty states that allies "will seek to eliminate conflict in their international economic policies and will encourage economic collaboration between any or all of them."

'No treaty violation'

Asked whether the U.S. tariffs constitute a breach of the treaty, NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte said: "No, I don't think so. We have seen in the past many examples of differences of view, of fights over tariffs. This has happened before without that being in violation of Article 2."

South Korean court ousts impeached President Yoon

Agence France-Presse
SEOUL

South Korea's Constitutional Court unanimously ruled on Friday to remove impeached President Yoon Suk Yeol from office over his disastrous martial law declaration, triggering fresh elections after months of political turmoil.

Mr. Yoon, 64, was suspended by lawmakers over his December 3 attempt to subvert civilian rule, which saw armed soldiers deployed to parliament. He was also arrested on insurrection charges as part of a separate criminal case.

"Given the serious negative impact and far-reaching consequences of the respondent's constitutional violations... (We) dismiss

Yoon Suk Yeol

respondent President Yoon Suk Yeol," acting court President Moon Hyung-bae said while delivering the ruling.

Mr. Yoon's removal, which is effective immediately, triggers fresh presidential elections, which must be held within 60 days. Authorities will announce a date in the coming days.

Outside the court, Mr. Yoon's supporters shouted threats saying they wanted to kill the judges, who decided unanimously to uphold Mr. Yoon's impeachment, and have been given additional security protection by police.

Mr. Yoon's actions "violate the core principles of the rule of law and democratic governance", the judges said in their ruling. Mr. Yoon sending armed soldiers to parliament in a bid to prevent lawmakers from voting down his decree "violated the political neutrality of the armed forces". He deployed troops for "political purposes", the judges added.

Mr. Yoon apologised for failing to meet the people's "expections" in a brief statement after the verdict.

At least 17 killed in Israeli strikes; troops enter Gaza's north

Associated Press
DEIR AL BALAH

Israeli strikes killed more than a dozen people in the Gaza Strip early Friday, as Israel sent more ground troops into the Palestinian territory to ramp up its offensive against Hamas.

At least 17 people, some from the same family, were killed after an airstrike hit the southern city of Khan Younis, according to hospital staff.

The attack came a day after Israeli strikes killed at least 100 Palestinians. On Friday, Israel said it had begun ground activity in northern Gaza, in order to expand its security zone.

The predawn strike on Friday hit a three-story building. In addition to the dead, the attack wounded at least 16 people from the same family.

On Thursday, more than 30 bodies, including women and children, were taken to hospitals in and around Khan Younis, according to hospital staff.

Hamas leader killed

Israel said Friday that it had killed Hassan Farhat, a top Hamas commander, in a strike in Lebanon's coastal city of Sidon.

U.S. should stop backing Ukraine if it is serious about Russia outreach: expert

Kallol Bhattacherjee
MOSCOW

Exemption from reciprocal tariff from the U.S. "does not mean anything" for Russia as the Trump administration needs to undertake more substantial steps to send a positive sign to the Kremlin, said leading commentators from the Institute of Oriental Studies (IOS) here.

Alikber K. Alikberov

Russia wants to develop "mutually beneficial relation" with the U.S. but that has not happened so far and as a result Russia is taking decisive steps to develop strong ties with countries of the Global South, especially India, China, Gulf and Southeast Asia, said Alikber K. Alikberov, Director of the IOS.

"There is practically no trade and commerce taking place with the United States. The sanctions imposed on Russia have removed those chances. Therefore, exemption from reciprocal tariff does not mean anything to Russia. They should unfreeze the Russian money that they have frozen in western banks and prevent Ukraine from using western satellites to target Russian soldiers and military infrastructure," Mr. Alikberov said. He, however, added that there are several 'meeting points' between Russia and the Trump administration at the policy level.

He pointed out that since the arrival of the Trump administration there have been several steps that are giving hope of finding a solution to the Ukraine crisis. "Germany has been greatly weakened. At the same time, the EU is facing pressure from Washington. Thirdly, he is also putting pressure on the EU through his position on Greenland - these factors obviously find our approval."

Back channel talks

Nikolay Plotnikov, head of the Centre of Scientific and Analytical Information of the Institute of Oriental Studies (IOS), said Russia wants "substantial" steps from the Trump administration and said that back-channel talks are going on to ensure that those decision follow soon.

Iran execution rate doubles in first three months of 2025: NGO

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

At least 230 people, including eight women, were executed, on murder, drugs-related charges

The number of executions carried out by Iran in the first three months this year was more than double the figure from the same period last year, an NGO said on Friday.

Norway-based group Iran Human Rights has warned that the Islamic republic's use of capital punishment was again surging in a time of international tension.

In the first three months of 2025, at least 230 people, including eight women, were executed, mainly on murder and drugs-related charges, it said. In the same period of 2024, 110 executions were recorded.

The NGO said there were five women among the 59 people executed in March alone, including a 24-year-old woman hanged on charges of killing her fiance whom she had been forced to marry.

Sport

Piastri sizzles as McLarens top chaotic second practice at Japanese GP

FORMULA ONE

Agence France-Presse
SUZUKA

Oscar Piastri went fastest on Friday in a McLaren one-two during a chaotic second practice for the Japanese Grand Prix that was red-flagged four times, as Red Bull debutant Yuki Tsunoda came 18th.

Piastri clocked a fastest lap of 1min 28.114sec to pip teammate and championship leader Lando Norris by 0.049sec in dry, sunny conditions. Piastri and Norris have won one grand prix each in a dominant start to the season from McLaren.

RB's Isack Hadjar was a surprise third fastest,

Zipping along: McLaren's Piastri speeds around the cherry blossom-lined Suzuka circuit during practice. AFP

0.404sec behind Australia's Piastri, followed by Ferrari's Lewis Hamilton and RB's Liam Lawson.

Mercedes' George Russell was sixth, followed by Ferrari's Charles Leclerc and Red Bull's four-time World champion Max Verstappen.

A heavily disrupted session was red-flagged about 10 minutes in when Alpine's Jack Doohan spun off the track and smashed into the barriers at high speed.

The car was badly damaged, with one wheel flying off upon impact, but Doohan was unhurt. The session was halted for 20 minutes and it restarted for only a few minutes before it was stopped again.

Aston Martin's Fernando Alonso barrelled off the track and came to a halt deep into the gravel.

Fire scare

The red flag came out a third time when sparks from the cars started a small fire on the grass surrounding the track.

There was just enough time for another stoppage with 10 seconds of the session remaining when sparks started another fire.

Norris went fastest in the first practice session ahead of Russell and Leclerc, with Tsunoda a solid sixth in the morning.

Bihar to host Khelo India Youth Games in May

GENERAL

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

The seventh edition of the Khelo India Youth Games will be staged in five cities of Bihar from May 4 to 15.

Quite excited about Khelo India Games shaping into a strong foundation of Indian sports, the Union Sports Minister, Mansukh Mandaviya, said that there would be 14 different types of Khelo India Games through the season.

Interacting with the media on Friday, the Minister said that there would be Khelo India Tribal Games, beach games, martial arts games, water games etc.

There could be permanent venues for some of the Khelo India Games, with a full-fledged calendar

Big plans: Sports Minister Mandaviya said there would be 14 different types of Khelo India Games through the season. ANI

in place, to help everyone prepare well and plan their logistics. With the digitisation of all data with regard to the athletes and their performances, the Minister stressed that there would be a large pool of several thousand athletes who would further be trained in world-class facilities to help them meet international standards.

"Instead of sending our athletes abroad, which is basically done to get the sports science support, we will train our athletes at home with the best experts. Already there are such institutes in the country," said the Minister, emphasising the importance of having a number of such centres across the country to tune the athletes on a regular basis, in different disciplines.

With the corporate sector being identified to support one game each, the government is confident that it would lead to professional management of sports, ensuring transparency, accountability and efficient governance of sports by the various national sports federations.

The Minister felt that there was no dearth of sports power in the country, and that what was required was a robust system to channelise the resources going through a supply line and getting converted into impressive output, in terms of international medals.

LATE BLOW

Rohit hit on knee in the nets, misses Super Giants game

VIJAY SONEJI

Senior batter Rohit Sharma missed Mumbai Indians' match against Lucknow Super Giants in Lucknow on Friday. He was hit on the knee during a nets session, according to captain Hardik Pandya. Rohit has been struggling in IPL 2025, scoring 0, 8 and 13 in the three matches he has played.

IN ELITE CLUB

Suryakumar becomes eighth MI player to feature in 100 IPL games

EMMANUAL YOGINI

Suryakumar Yadav became the eighth MI player to feature in 100 IPL games when he took the field against Lucknow Super Giants on Friday. Suryakumar joined Rohit Sharma, Kieron Pollard, Harbhajan Singh, Jasprit Bumrah, Lasith Malinga, Ambati Rayudu and Hardik Pandya in the elite club.

SPIN TWINS

Noor is bowling really well and has a lovely wrong 'un: Kuldeep

B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

He's bowling really well. He tries to learn from everyone. We had a chat on how to go about leg-spin bowling, and obviously, he has a lovely wrong 'un. With his pace, it's very difficult for batters to pick, and especially while playing against Chennai, it is very difficult to score against any wrist spinner — DC's Kuldeep Yadav on CSK's Noor Ahmad.

PURE CLASS

Shami will get better and better through the IPL: Franklin

K.R. DEEPAK

Today (Thursday) was probably his (Shami's) strongest performance with the ball since he has come in. We know what a world-class bowler he is and certainly with the new ball he's always going to create half opportunities or opportunities. He'll be better through the IPL — James Franklin, SRH bowling coach, after the KKR match.

LSG holds nerve at the crunch, edges MI in a nail-biter

Marsh powers the host to its highest total at Ekana; Hardik's all-round show in vain; Digvesh, Shardul and Avesh come good with the ball

Terrific trio: Avesh, Digvesh and Shardul played a big role in LSG scraping past MI. SANDEEP SAXENA

IPL-18

Abhishek Saini
LUCKNOW

Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) trapped Mumbai Indians (MI) in a death-overs squeeze to secure a 12-run win from a seemingly lost position in IPL 2025 at the Ekana Stadium here on Friday.

The 204-run target was not out of sight for MI when Hardik Pandya dispatched a full toss from Avesh Khan over the long-off fence off the first ball of the final over.

But Avesh hitting the block hole at will meant the visitor could only add three more off the remaining five deliveries and succumbed to its seventh-straight defeat on the road in the IPL.

Turning point

The 22-run defence off the final over was not the only contribution from Avesh. The LSG pacer nabbed Suryakumar Yadav (67, 43b, 9x4, 1x6) in the 17th over which eventually turned the plot in his side's favour.

MI attempted a late twist by retiring out Tilak Varma after his 23-ball 25 and sending in Mitchell Santner as Shardul Thakur bowled a superb penultimate over. The experienced medium-paver went for only seven.

The contest was firmly in MI's grip during the 69-run third-wicket association between Suryakumar and Naman Dhir.

But Digvesh Rathi castled the latter with his slider.

LSG needed contrasting half-centuries from its opening salvo to tally its highest total at Ekana.

Perfect foil

Aiden Markram (53, 38b, 2x4, 4x6) anchored the innings and played the perfect foil to Mitchell Marsh's (60, 31b, 9x4, 2x6) PowerPlay burst to get LSG to 203 for eight.

Vignesh Puthur broke the opening stand when he tricked Marsh into playing straight back to him with a googly.

Hardik quashed Ekana's hopes of witnessing another Nicholas Pooran blitz when his slower bouncer took his top-edge to short third man.

It was a pace-off delivery that added to Rishabh Pant's misery too, inducing a leading edge to long-off.

LSG looked like ending below-par when Hardik got Markram to hole out to long- off in the 18th over.

Maiden five-for

The MI captain even completed his maiden five-wicket haul in the 20th over, but Miller made sure Hardik's team faced a mountain too steep to climb.

SCOREBOARD

LUCKNOW SUPER GIANTS
Mitchell Marsh c & b Vignesh 60 *(31b, 9x4, 2x6)*, Aiden Markram c Bawa b Hardik 53 *(38b, 2x4, 4x6)*, Nicholas Pooran c Chahar b Hardik 12 *(6b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Rishabh Pant c (sub) Bosch b Hardik 2 *(6b)*, Ayush Badoni c Rickelton b Ashwani 30 *(19b, 4x4)*, David Miller c Naman b Hardik 27 *(14b, 3x4, 1x6)*, Abdul Samad c Naman b Boult 4 *(2b, 1x4)*, Shardul Thakur (not out) 5 *(2b, 1x4)*, Akash Deep c Santner b Hardik 0 *(1b)*, Avesh Khan (not out) 2 *(1b)*; Extras (w-8): 8; Total (for eight wkts. in 20 overs): 203.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-76 (Marsh, 6.6 overs), 2-91 (Pooran, 8.5), 3-107 (Pant, 10.4), 4-158 (Badoni, 15.5), 5-173 (Markram, 17.5), 6-182 (Samad, 18.3), 7-200 (Miller, 19.4), 8-200 (Akash, 19.5).

MUMBAI INDIANS BOWLING
Boult 3-0-28-1, Chahar 2-0-23-0, Ashwani 3-0-39-1, Santner 4-0-46-0, Vignesh 4-0-31-1, Hardik 4-0-36-5.

MUMBAI INDIANS
Will Jacks c Bishnoi b Akash 5 *(7b)*, Ryan Rickelton c Bishnoi b Shardul 10 *(5b, 2x4)*, Naman Dhir b Digvesh 46 *(24b, 4x4, 3x6)*, Suryakumar Yadav c Samad b Avesh 67 *(43b, 9x4, 1x6)*, Tilak Varma **(Impact Player for Vignesh)** retired out 25 *(23b, 2x4)*, Hardik Pandya (not out) 28 *(16b, 2x4, 1x6)*, Mitchell Santner (not out) 2 *(2b)*; Extras (lb-4, w-4): 8; Total (for five wkts. in 20 overs): 191.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-11 (Jacks, 1.4), 2-17 (Rickelton, 2.2), 3-86 (Naman, 8.1), 4-152 (Suryakumar, 16.1), 5-180 (Tilak, 18.5).

SUPER GIANTS BOWLING
Shardul 4-0-40-1, Akash 4-0-46-1, Avesh 4-0-40-1, Digvesh 4-0-21-1, Bishnoi **(Impact Player for Marsh)** 4-0-40-0.

Toss: MI; **PoM:** Digvesh.
LSG won by 12 runs.

Next assignment

MI: April 7 vs **RCB**
Mumbai, 7.30 p.m.

LSG: April 8 vs **KKR**
Kolkata, 3.30 p.m.

Dhoni could be back at the helm

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

In what could be a stunning development, M.S. Dhoni could return as captain of Chennai Super Kings on home soil for the IPL league encounter against Delhi Capitals at the MAC Stadium on Saturday.

This comes in the wake of skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad being a doubtful starter for the team's fourth match after he copped a blow to his forearm while batting in the previous game against Rajasthan Royals.

Ruturaj batted through pain in the six-run loss to the Royals at Guwahati, and in case the 28-year-old doesn't recover in time, CSK batting coach Michael Hussey hinted the former captain could take over.

Talisman: Dhoni's return as captain could just be the tonic Super Kings need. AFP

When asked who could lead the side in Ruturaj's absence, Hussey cheekily said, "I am not sure, actually. I don't think we have actually thought about that too much. I am sure Fleming and Rutu have thought about that. But we have got some young guy coming through. He is behind the stumps. Maybe he can do a good job. I am not sure. He's got a bit of experience in the role, so maybe he could do it. But I'm not exactly sure, to be honest."

On Friday evening, Ruturaj took throwdowns outside the nets for about 10 minutes but did not pad up.

Trying to find the right combination, says Hussey

Tarun Shastry
CHENNAI

CSK batting coach Michael Hussey sounded optimistic about a turnaround and highlighted the areas of improvement as the side got ready to take on DC.

"We are certainly not at our best at the moment and are working on all facets of the game. We are also focusing on the small areas we can improve. We can improve with bat and ball... we could be a bit sharper on the field, too.

"It's still early days and we are trying to find the right combination. Hopefully, we can play consistent cricket," said Hussey.

When asked about the top-order not firing in the PowerPlay, he said: "We haven't been able to get the flying starts. We've come up against some pretty good bowling in the PowerPlays. Against RCB, they utilised the pace and bounce of the wicket better than us. RR bowled really well with the new ball and put us under pressure. We need to take a bit more risk. Obviously, we want a fast start, but I don't think we need to panic. If we stick to the process, we'll improve and get the results".

CSK on the backfoot at home as DC looks to end Chepauk jinx

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

It is not often that Chennai Super Kings enters a match in its backyard as the underdog. The five-time champion boasts the best home record (69.86%) in the competition. However, after an indifferent start to its IPL-18 campaign with reverses in its last two outings, the heat is well and truly on Super Kings when it takes on Delhi Capitals in an afternoon fixture at the MAC Stadium on Saturday.

The Men in Yellow have quite a few headaches and need to find solutions quickly. Beyond the uncertainty surrounding the injured skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad's availability, CSK has areas of concern, particularly the minimal returns in the PowerPlay which proved vital in the end.

Top-order woes

Rahul Tripathi's failure to provide starts is a big worry, though batting coach Michael Hussey backed the opener to come good. The team might be tempted to bring in Devon Conway to bolster the batting department. The host also needs to sharpen its bowling in the PowerPlay.

On the other hand, a confident Capitals outfit will look to continue its sizzling start. The Axar Patel-led side has most of its bases covered. Faf du Plessis, Jake Fraser-McGurk and Tristan Stubbs form an explosive top-order while Mitchell Starc, fresh from a five-for in the previous encounter against Sunrisers Hyderabad, can be lethal upfront.

Crucially, DC also has a potent spin duo – Axar and Kuldeep Yadav – which can be a handful on a surface that usually aids the tweakers.

The Delhi franchise has tasted success only twice against CSK at Chepauk and will feel it has a bright chance of recording its first win here since 2010.

Reinforcement: CSK might be tempted to bring in Conway to bolster its batting. S.R. RAGHUNATHAN

Today's matches

Chennai, 3.30 p.m.	New Chandigarh, 7.30 p.m.
HEAD-TO-HEAD	HEAD-TO-HEAD
Played: 30	Played: 28
CSK 19 | DC 11	PBKS 12 | RR 16
PREVIOUS MEETING: DC won by 20 runs, 2024	PREVIOUS MEETING: PBKS won by five wickets, 2024

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD) & JIOHOTSTAR

Will a buoyant Royals reel in high-flying Shreyas' Kings?

Leading by example: Skipper Shreyas has been at the forefront of Kings' charge with the bat. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Sankar Narayanan E.H.
NEW CHANDIGARH

Punjab Kings, after rollicking victories away in Ahmedabad and Lucknow, is set to play host for the first time in IPL 2025.

Saturday's fixture against Rajasthan Royals is also a good opportunity for the in-form PBKS to snap its four-match winless run at the Maharaja Yadavindra Singh Stadium.

After the 11-run win over Gujarat Titans in a run feast, PBKS hunted down Lucknow Super Giants' 171 at a canter.

Skipper Shreyas Iyer (149 runs at a strike rate of 206.94) has been at the forefront of Kings' charge with the bat.

The team's astute use of the Impact Player rule (V. Vyshak vs GT and Nehal Wadhera vs LSG) is praiseworthy.

RR, which started its campaign with heavy losses against Sunrisers Hyderabad and Kolkata Knight Riders, comes into this contest with a spring in its step after getting the better of Chennai Super Kings.

Nitish Rana's 36-ball 81 set up the game before the bowlers – led by Jofra Archer (one for 13) and Wanindu Hasaranga (four for 35) – did a commendable job of defending 182.

The return of Sanju Samson as skipper after getting NCA's clearance to resume wicket-keeping duties also bodes well for the visitor.

Opener Yashasvi Jaiswal, who was the first one to turn up for batting practice on the eve of the match, looked determined to arrest his slump quickly.

It will also be interesting to see how Kings' Yuzvendra Chahal – maybe with a point to prove – fares against his former side.

Not tuned in to the pitch conversation: Samson

Sankar Narayanan E.H.
NEW CHANDIGARH

Home advantage has been a hot topic of discussion in IPL 2025.

Host teams have expressed displeasure at pitch curators when they did not get their preferred track.

Rajasthan Royals captain Sanju Samson, however, admitted that he was not following the discourse.

"I am not aware of things happening in the media. Both teams get to play on the same wicket. You just have to play smarter and score one run more than the opponent," he said.

Samson also talked about his experience as an Impact Player due to an injury concern.

"I think I was a bit surprised [missing out on three games]. I was just holding myself back and seeing the game from another perspective."

PBKS spin-bowling coach Sunil Joshi said he would rather look at the positives of this season than his side's poor record at the venue (1W, 4L in 2024).

"We all know that and we have started very well away from home [this year]. We would like to have the same momentum going forward," Joshi said.

INBRIEF

Tan stuns Ju to win second game, secures the lead

Chinese GM Tan Zhongyi took a 1.5-0.5 lead in the FIDE Women's World Championship 2025 after World champion and compatriot Ju Wenjun collapsed in a rook endgame that seemed headed for a draw in Shanghai on Friday. Tan won the second game in 62 moves and almost five hours. The players now have their first rest day, with 10 games still remaining for Ju to bounce back.

Fernandez fires Chelsea into fourth spot in Premier League

Chelsea climbed to fourth place in the Premier League as Enzo Fernandez's 50th minute header sealed a 1-0 win over Tottenham Hotspur on Thursday. Manchester City and Newcastle had both won on Wednesday. Chelsea is one point clear of fifth-placed City.

Arsenal defender Gabriel ruled out for the season

Arsenal's Gabriel Magalhaes will miss the rest of the season after requiring a hamstring operation, with the injury setback leaving his team with more defensive problems.

Saketh and Ramkumar lose in doubles quarterfinals

Saketh Myneni and Ramkumar Ramanthan lost 7-5, 6-7(2), [10-4] to Daniel Cukierman and Joshua Paris in the doubles quarterfinals of the €145,250 Challenger tennis tournament in Menorca, Spain.

Other results: $40,000 ITF women, Bujumbura, Burundi: Doubles: Semifinals: Emeline Dartron (Fra) & Tiantsoa Rakotomanga bt Riya Bhatia & Sada Nahimana (Bdi) 7-6(3), 6-2; **Quarterfinals:** Riya & Sada bt Ekaterine Gorgodze (Geo) & Darja Suvirdjonkova (Srb) 6-3, 6-3.

Neeraj headlines Panchkula javelin event

World Athletics has granted a category A status to the meet which will be held on May 24

Ready to go: Neeraj will be keen to be at his best against the top javelin throwers on home turf. FILE PHOTO: RITU RAJ KONWAR

ATHLETICS

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The much-anticipated, star-studded global javelin event in India, featuring double Olympic medallist Neeraj Chopra competing against some of the best in the business, will be held in Panchkula on May 24.

The event has been christened as the Neeraj Chopra Classic and World Athletics, the sport's governing body, has granted a category A status to the event which will be held at the Tau Devi Lal Stadium.

The World Athletics website, however, does not list the event as part of its Continental Tour for which the calendar was published before the start of the season.

Neeraj is in the event's organising committee. Along with JSW Sports and Athletics Federation of India, he has been instrumental in getting the competition to the country.

Chirag sets up last-four meeting with Clarke

TENNIS

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

India's Chirag Duhan entered his maiden ITF M25 singles semifinal following a 6-2, 7-6(1) victory over compatriot Ishaque Eqbal at the S.M. Krishna Memorial Open tennis tournament here on Friday.

In the last-four clash, he will take on top seed Jay Clarke, who ousted Karan Singh. Second seed Oliver Crawford beat Aryan Shah – who won the title in Ahmedabad last week – to set up a semis meeting against Japan's Ryuki Matsuda.

The results: Singles: Quarterfinals: Ryuki Matsuda (Jpn) bt Maxim Zhukov (Rus) 6-4, 7-6(3); Chirag Duhan bt Ishaque Eqbal 6-2, 7-6(1); Jay Clarke (GBr) bt Karan Singh 7-6(5), 6-1; Oliver Crawford (GBr) bt Aryan Shah 6-3, 6-0. **Doubles: Semifinals:** Nick Chappell (USA) & Grigoriy Lomakin (Kaz) bt Aryan & Karan 6-1, 6-0; S.D. Prajwal Dev & Nitin Kumar Sinha bt Manish Sureshkumar & Parikshit Somani 6-0, 7-6(5).

Yess! Chirag exults during his quarterfinal match against Ishaque. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

SNAPSHOTS

Hitesh advances to 70kg final in World Boxing Cup

National champion Hitesh defeated France's Makan Traore 5-0 in a 70kg semifinal bout in the World Boxing Cup Brazil 2025 in Foz Do Iguacu.

M. Jadumani Singh was pipped 3-2 by former Asian under-22 champion Asilbek Jalilov of Uzbekistan in the 50kg semifinals.

Sachin (60kg) and Vishal (90kg), who got byes to begin from the semifinals, lost to Poland's Pawel Brach (abandoned in round two) and Uzbekistan's Turabek Khabibullaev (5-0) respectively.

India outclasses Malaysia

India beat host Malaysia 3-0 to finish third in group-B in the Asia-Oceania World Junior Tennis under-14 girls championship in Kuching, Malaysia, on Friday.

The results (league): India bt Malaysia 3-0 (Srishti Kiran bt Amanda Teng 6-1, 6-0; Jensi Kanabar bt Adani Azhari 6-1, 6-0; Srishti & Aaradhya Meena bt Amanda Teng & Audrey Teng 6-3, 6-3).

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Friends Union Cricketers, Zodiac CC make the summit clash

Friends Union Cricketers, KGF recorded a narrow one-run win over Southern Cricketers to enter the final of the KSCA (Group I) fifth division league tournament.

In the summit clash, Friends Union will take on Zodiac CC, which progressed by virtue of having a better average after its last-four tie against Kapali CC was abandoned because of rain.

The scores (semifinals): Southern Cricketers 99 in 28.4 overs (D. Udaya Shankar 4/22) lost to Friends Union Cricketers, KGF 100/9 in 31.5 overs.

Abhiram stars in Roots FS (KSFA)'s win

B. Abhiram scored a brace as Roots FS (KSFA) blanked DYES FC 3-0 in the BDFA A-division league football here on Friday.

The results: A-div.: Roots FS (KSFA) 3 (B. Abhiram 46, 66, Siddharth Jayanth 78) bt DYES FC 0; BTM FC 3 (Amit Kumar 12, Nakshatra Jain 32, Mugilan 77) bt AGORC FC 1 (Jaikumar 52).

C-div.: Muslims Heroes FC 6 bt Southern Blues FC 1; Pillanna Garden FC 4 bt Town SC Hoskote FC 0.

Amartya shines in VBC Mandya's victory

Amartya scored 27 points as VBC Mandya beat Pinakini BC Gauribidanur 73-52 in the final phase of the Karnataka Rural Basketball League on Friday.

The results: Mangalore 63 (Pradil 11, Kiran 11) bt Inspire Dharwad 33 (Prashanth 11); Mallasajjan Dharwad 69 (Karthik 22, Manjunath 16) bt YFBC Kolar 53 (Roopesh 22, Rajesh 21); Kuvempu Kalburgi 75 (Sirajuddin 37) bt Nationals Mysore 70 (Ronak 32, Shlok 10); Pinakini Gauribidanur 78 (Pavan 22, Likith 15) bt YCBC Bellary 49 (Arun 13, Rooman 11); VBC Mandya 73 (Amartya 27, Shashank Gowda 11) bt Pinakini 52 (Pavan 22); Kuvempu Kalburgi 74 (Sirajuddin 36, Vishal 11) bt YCBC Bellary 63 (Rooman 21, Mahesh 18); Vijaya Nagar Mysore 76 (Bhuvan 18, Vikas 14) bt Inspire 49 (Prashanth 38); Mangalore 95 (Shashank Rai 18, Sowkin shetty 17) bt Mallasajjan 68 (Manjunath 24).

Santo and Meher triumph

Santo Babu and T. Meher emerged the boys' and girls' singles champions respectively in the Tennis Infinity AITA U-12 Championship series tennis tournament here on Friday.

The results (finals): Singles: Boys: Santo Babu bt Siddharth Anand 6-4, 6-3. **Girls:** T. Meher bt P. Pranvuta 6-1, 6-2. **Doubles: Boys:** Siddharth Anand & V. Anirudh bt Vardaan Kumar & Avyaan Vinod 6-3, 6-4. **Girls:** V. Kaashvi & P. Pranvuta bt Aanya Dugal & Krisha Bansal 6-4, 6-4.

LIVE TELECAST

Formula One: Japanese GP (Qualifying), F1 TV, F1 TV Pro App & FanCode, 11.30 a.m.

IPL: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 3.30 & 7.30 p.m.

Premier League: SS Select 1, 2 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 5, 7.30 & 10 p.m.

Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 7 & 10 p.m.

Saptak takes the honours

Sports Bureau
GREATER NOIDA

Local resident Saptak Talwar won his maiden title with an overall 13-under 275 in the ₹1.5 crore Adani invitational golf championship on Friday.

Saptak, who won ₹22,50,000, rose to the fourth place in the PGTI Order of Merit as he took his winnings to ₹38,70,423 for the season so far.

Top three: 1. Saptak Talwar (67, 72, 69, 67) 275; 2. Arjun Prasad (68, 69, 69, 70) 276; 3. Yuvraj Sandhu (70, 67, 69, 71) 277.

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